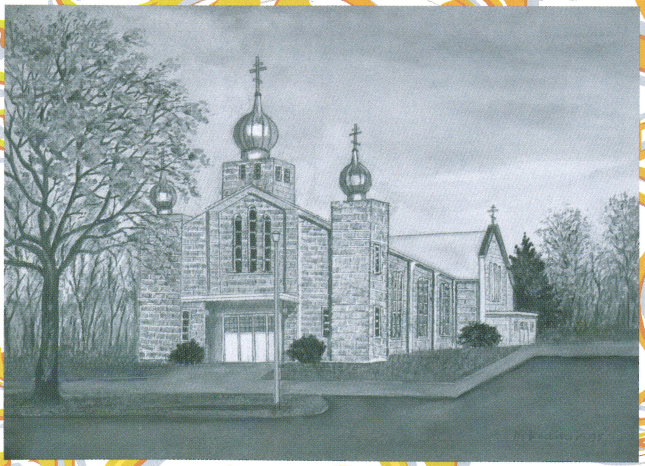
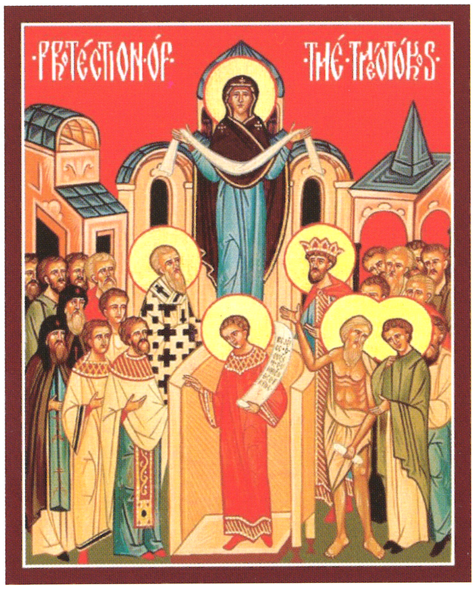
Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church

1911 - 2011



Centennial Celebration



Troparion (Tone 4)
Today the faithful celebrate the feast with joy
Illumined by your coming, O Theotokos,
Beholding your pure image we fervently cry to you:
Encompass us beneath the precious veil of your protection
And deliver us from every form of evil
By entreating Christ, your Son and our God
That He may save our souls.

Kontakion (Tone 3)
Today the Virgin stands in the midst of the Church
And with choirs of saints she invisibly prays to God for us.
Angels and bishops honor her,
Apostles and prophets rejoice together,
Since for our sake she prays to the Eternal God!

This Feast commemorates an event that happened at Constantinople in the 10th Century. In the year 911, during the reign of Emperor Leo the Wise, a large army of Saracens was preparing to attack the city and conquer it. The pious people of Constantinople reacted to the threat by turning to prayer. They thronged to the Church of Blachernae (where was preserved the Robe and Veil of the Mother of God) and there raised their voices to Christ the Lord, and to His Mother, the All-Holy Theotokos, pleading for mercy and help against the foe.

As the soldiers raised their arms in battle, the church was filled with hymns and prayers. Among the believers was St. Andrew, a Fool-for-Christ, and his disciple, St. Epiphanius. Suddenly they saw a vision of the Virgin Mary surrounded by a choir of angels, prophets and apostles. Do you see, brother, the Queen of all praying for the peace of the world asked Andrew? Indeed I see, father, answered the disciple. I see and I fear.

The inhabitants of the city heard of this vision of the two men, and were filled with joy and hope that this was a sign of deliverance. They thanked God and sang hymns to the One who interceded for them. All night they prayed in the church, while outside, the Christian army fought against the invaders. The tide of battle turned against the enemy and the defenders of Constantinople emerged with a decisive victory. Saints Andrew and Epiphanius told everyone of their vision in the church, seeing the Holy Virgin with outstretched arms, holding a veil over the city as a sign of protection, and imploring God's mercy upon the people.

Since that time the Feast of the Protection has come to be celebrated by the Church. In the Feast of the Protection of the Most-Holy Theotokos, we entreat of the Queen of Heaven to protect and help: Remember us in your prayers, O Lady, Virgin Theotokos, that we not perish for the increase of our sins; protect us from all evil and cruel misfortune. For we put our hope on you, and honoring the Feast of your Protection, we magnify you!

The Feast of the Protection commemorates the appearance of the most holy Theotokos in the Church of Blachernae in Constantinople in the early sixth century, as recorded in the life of Saint Andrew the Fool for Christ's sake. While the multitudes of the faithful were gathered in church, Epiphanius, the friend of Saint Andrew, through the Saint's prayers, beheld the Virgin Mary above the faithful and spreading out her veil over them, signifying her unceasing protection of all Christians. Because of this we keep a yearly feast of gratitude, imploring our Lady never to cease sheltering us in her mighty prayers.

Metropolitan Jonah, Primate

ORTHODOX
CHURCH in
AMERICA

P.O. Box 675
Syosset, NY 11791-0675
Tel: 516.922.0550
Fax: 516.922.0954
Website: www.oca.org

October 2, 2011

Archpriest Peter Bodnar and Parishioners
Protection of the Virgin Mary Church
8600 Grand Blvd.
Merrillville, IN 46410

Dear Father Peter and Faithful Parishioners:

With love in the Lord, and with a spirit of thanksgiving, I greet you on the occasion of the Centennial Anniversary of Protection of the Virgin Mary Church. I hope and pray that your celebration will be filled with abundant joy.

As we reflect on the past one hundred years, we can joyfully remember those memorable events that shaped the life of our church. From the baptisms and weddings, to the feasts of the church, to past anniversaries and other historical occasions, to the social and fraternal activities that we participated in, we can truly see the abundant presence of our Lord in our parish home. We also remember those who have come and gone before us and can take this opportunity to remember their role in shaping this parish family to our current state. We especially remember the Archpriests Benjamin Kedrovsky and Peter Rozdelsky, both of whom served as exemplary pastors for this parish as well as for the church at large.

A church anniversary is not just about the past, but is about the future as well. Let us take this occasion to look at ourselves and our spiritual lives, and rededicate ourselves to our Lord Jesus Christ. Only with Christ as the center of our lives will we be able to face the challenges ahead and continue to go forth and grow our parish family as we continue to proclaim the Gospel to all we come into contact with.

May God grant *Memory Eternal* to all of the clergy and parishioners of Protection of the Virgin Mary Church who have fallen asleep in the Lord; and to Father Peter and all who gather for this joyous occasion, *Many Years*!

With my blessing and best wishes for a joyous celebration, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

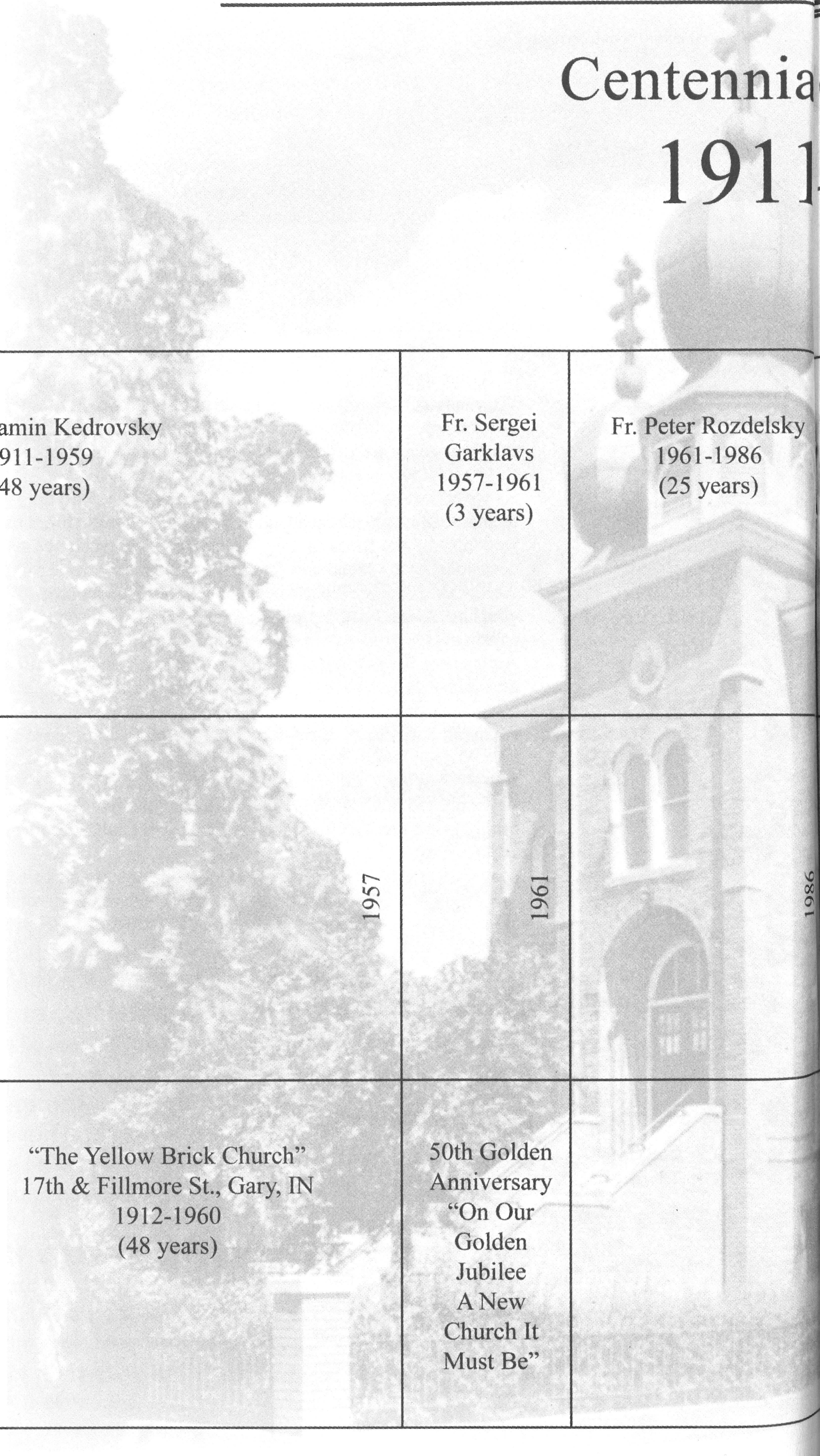
+ Jonah

+ JONAH
Archbishop of Washington
Metropolitan of All America and Canada

The Protection of the Vi

Centennia

1911-



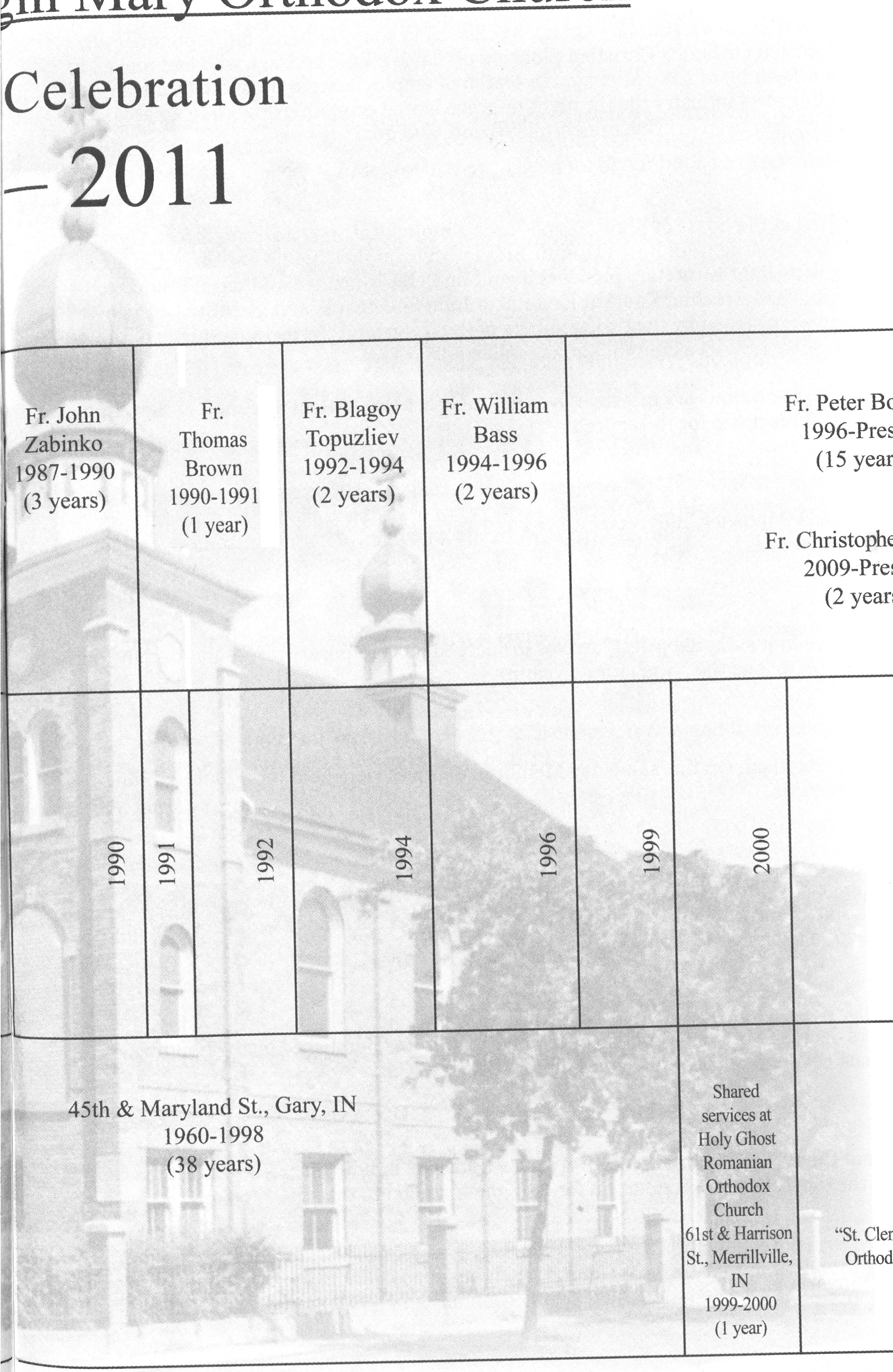
1906 Gary, IN founded

Fr. Benjamin Kedrovsky 1911-1959 (48 years)			Fr. Sergei Garklavs 1957-1961 (3 years)	Fr. Peter Rozdelsky 1961-1986 (25 years)
1911	1912	1957	1961	1986
St. Mary's Church Founded 9/28/1911 Temporary location at 13th and Madison St. Gary, IN	Church services moved to home of Kondrat and Anna Krenitsky 1632 Jackson St. Gary, IN 1911-1912	"The Yellow Brick Church" 17th & Fillmore St., Gary, IN 1912-1960 (48 years)	50th Golden Anniversary "On Our Golden Jubilee A New Church It Must Be"	

gin Mary Orthodox Church

Celebration

– 2011



Fr. John Zabinko 1987-1990 (3 years)	Fr. Thomas Brown 1990-1991 (1 year)	Fr. Blagoy Topuzliev 1992-1994 (2 years)	Fr. William Bass 1994-1996 (2 years)	Fr. Peter Bodnar 1996-Present (15 years) Fr. Christopher Sarafin 2009-Present (2 years)

1990	1991	1992	1994	1996	1999	2000		2010	Centennial Celebration 2011

45th & Maryland St., Gary, IN 1960-1998 (38 years)	Shared services at Holy Ghost Romanian Orthodox Church 61st & Harrison St., Merrillville, IN 1999-2000 (1 year)	8600 Grand Blvd. Merrillville, IN 2000-Present (11 years) "St. Clement Ohridski American Macedonian Orthodox Church" merges with our parish (2010)

A HISTORY OF IMPORTANT EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH

The formation of the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church in Gary, Indiana, on September 28, 1911, was the fruition of dedicated Orthodox Christian pioneers of Slavic ethnic heritage who had moved to the "Miracle City" on the southern tip of Lake Michigan in search of employment in the industrial complex created by a rapidly expanding steel industry that brought unprecedented economic growth to an area, which only a few years earlier, had been drifting dunes, marshland, and quaking bogs.

September 28, 1911

Our congregation is organized at the home of Kondrat and Anna Krenitzky at 1632 Jackson Street, Gary, Indiana. In attendance at this meeting were Rev. Vladimir Alexandrov and Rev. John Gratson of Chicago's St. Michael's Church along with eight early Gary pioneers including Peter Romanyak, Michael Frentzko, Vasil Misko, Efrem Shevchik, Vasil Krochta, Kondrat Krenitzky, John Shevtchuk, and Timothy Lescisin. The minutes of this meeting were signed by the two members of the clergy and the eight members of the proposed church. With a resolve to start a church, $263 is collected.

Since Rev. Jacob Korchinsky, our temporary priest, arrives on the Feast Day of the Protection of the Virgin Mary, it is decided to assume this name for the church.

November 12, 1911

Radion Petrovich and Ludmila Pajnovich, and Simeon Pysh and Paraskeva Zrolka were united in Holy Matrimony per early church records.

November 22, 1911

Rev. Benjamin Kedrovsky, the first assigned priest, arrives to succeed our temporary priest and become our permanent pastor. He goes on to lead the parish for 47 years.

November 26, 1911

Lubov Belkoff receives Holy Baptism. On this same day Memorial Services were held for infant Vladimir Shevchik per early church records.

November 29, 1911

Celebration of Divine Liturgy, previously held at a site on the corner of 13th Avenue & Madison Street in Gary, is relocated to the home of the first elder, Kondrat Krenitzky, at 1632 Jackson Street, for economic reasons. The service is held in a 9 by 20 ft room.

June 9, 1912

At a meeting, the founders decide to build a wooden church on the four lots purchased by the building committee on the northeast corner of 17th Avenue and Fillmore Street in Gary.

Summer 1912

A wooden church is built at the 17th and Fillmore location for $7,000. The building is 32-by-72 feet in size. A bell is purchased from the old Tolleston Fire Station for $46 and installed in the lone cupola.

September 8, 1912

Russians, Macedonians, Bulgarians, and Serbians gather together at the new church for the consecration by Bishop Alexander of New York.

October 1914

A parish house is built next to the church, at 1735 Fillmore Street. Church school is held there.

1917

The Icon of the Nativity is presented to our church from a group of church members originally from the village of Vereschaky in Russia. The icon is inscribed with the donors names in Russian as follows; Phillip Shavkun, John Shavkun, John Koshubara, Theodore Koshubara, Gregory Matsueff, John Gorbachev, and Terenty Yatskoff.

This coincides with the period of time when our church was under attack by anti-religious groups in America and abroad. Red paint is smeared on our white sanctuary.

1919

A corporation of church members including Vasil Misko, Daniel Krochta, Michael Frentzko, Simeon Pysh, Peter Cidylo, Andrew Pilar, John Hortik, Nicholas Huminsky, and John Oleska purchase land on West Ridge Road, just outside of Gary, for use as a cemetery.

September 18, 1922

To accommodate the increase of parishioners, the wooden church at 17th and Fillmore Streets is raised and expanded. A basement is added to the existing church. Two more cupolas are added to the church and the church is encased with a bright yellow brick -- all for $12,000.

September 2, 1923

Our remodeled, brick-veneered church is consecrated by Bishop Theophilus.

December 25, 1927

St. Mary's Cemetery on West Ridge Road, with chapel, is donated to the church by the group of church members who purchased the land for it in 1919.

October 1928

Russian Orthodox Day is celebrated, with Metropolitan Platon of New York and bishops from Chicago, San Francisco, and Canada. A Russian Orthodox band, organized and directed by Andrew P. Glagolev, performs. Also performing, in colorful costumes, is a mixed choir that Glagolev also organizes. They win 1st and 2nd place at the Gary and Chicagoland Music Festivals.

September 1931

For St. Mary's 20th anniversary, and Gary's Silver Jubilee, Rt. Rev. Benjamin Kedrovsky completes publication of "On God's Field," a history of St. Mary's Church.

September 1936

The church's Silver Anniversary is celebrated.

1940

Two hundred and seventy-two young men of St. Mary's Church leave to serve in World War II. Subsequently, a total of fourteen make the supreme sacrifice. Sunday School classes are organized and Michael Grisak becomes the first Sunday School Superintendent.

April 13, 1947

Our first church bulletin is printed by Mary Sovich and Michael Grisak.

April 20, 1947

Divine Liturgy in English is completed and published by St. Mary's Parent-Teachers Council (PTC).

Labor Day 1947

A conference is held in Gary, the birth place of AROYA, which joins with Federated Russian Orthodox clubs to become a national organization.

Fall 1951

On our Patron Saint Day, Very Rev. Benjamin Kedrovsky is elevated to Rt. Reverend by the Holy Synod of Bishops and granted the honor of wearing the Mitre.

Summer 1956

On the Golden Jubilee of Gary, St. Mary's adopts the slogan, "On our Golden Jubilee, a new church it must be." Five acres of land are purchased at 45th Avenue and Maryland Street in the Glen Park area of Gary for the construction of the second church.

October 6, 1957

Rev. Sergei Garklavs becomes our assistant pastor.

1958

Our first church located at 17th Avenue and Fillmore Street is sold.

1959

Construction begins at the 45th Avenue and Maryland Street site for our second church and a separate hall, both constructed of Indiana limestone for a cost of $350,000. Our precious bell makes the move with us to the new church and is installed in the main cupola. The name of the church was reincorporated as St. Mary's Orthodox Church.

September 1959

Rt. Rev. Benjamin Kedrovsky became Pastor Emeritus after nearly 48 years as our pastor. Rev. Sergei Garklavs assumed ecclesiastic leadership until his transfer to another church on December 15, 1960.

December 15, 1960

The first service was held in our new church at 45th Avenue and Maryland Street in Gary.

January 1, 1961

Rev. Peter Rozdelsky becomes our pastor.

October 15, 1961

St. Mary's Golden Jubilee is celebrated.

January 1, 1962

Consecration of the new church is held, with His Eminence Archbishop John officiating.

September 1965

A member of St. Mary's, Roman (Raymond) Svihra, enters St. Vladimir's Seminary and Iona College.

October 17, 1965

The mortgage of the second church located at 45th Avenue and Maryland Street, is retired.

1967

Father Peter Rozdelsky is honored by the Holy Synod with the gold-jeweled pectoral cross.

November 25, 1968

Rt. Rev. Benjamin Kedrovsky falls asleep in the Lord.

June 1969

Raymond Svihra graduates and is ordained as Deacon at St. Vladimir's Seminary.

August 1, 1969

The building of the new rectory is completed.

1971

The name of our church is redefined as the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church when we recognize the need to become part of the Orthodox Church in America.

December 5, 1975

Matushka Julia Kedrovsky falls asleep in the Lord.

During 1972

Rt. Rev. Peter Rozdelsky is honored by the Holy Synod of bishops with the privilege of wearing the mitre.

January 16, 1983

A member of our church, Frank Panchak, is ordained into the priesthood as Fr. Theodore.

Fall 1984

A member of our church, David Cochran, enrolls at St. Tikhon's Seminary to prepare for the priesthood.

October 14, 1984

Protodeacon Roman Svihra falls asleep in the Lord.

September 26-28, 1986

The St. Mary's Diamond Anniversary coincides with Father Peter Rozdelsky's Silver Anniversary as its rector and completion of 43 years since ordination. The last surviving founder of St. Mary's, Bertha Kowal, planning to leave the area to live with grandchildren, was also honored.

November 23, 1986

Rt. Rev. Peter Rozdelsky falls asleep in the Lord after nearly 26 years as our pastor.

May 1987

Rev. John Zabinko becomes our pastor.

June 3, 1990

Rev. Zabinko leaves to serve in Kodiak, Alaska.

November 1, 1990

Rev. Thomas Brown becomes our pastor.

August 4, 1991

Fr. Thomas Brown falls asleep in the Lord after serving Divine Liturgy.

May 20, 1992

Rev. Blagoy Topuzliev comes to serve as our pastor.

October, 11, 1992

Fr. David Cochran is ordained into the priesthood.

February 29, 1994

Rev. Blagoy Topuzliev is transferred to St. Clement Church in Merrillville.

March 7, 1994

Rev. William Bass comes to serve as our pastor.

February 1, 1996

Rev. William Bass leaves to start a mission church in Chesterton, Indiana.

August 1, 1996

Rev. Peter Bodnar arrives from North Dakota to serve as our pastor.

August 1996

Ten acres of land is purchased for $110,000 at 8600 Grand Boulevard in Merrillville for the site of the new church complex.

December 30, 1998

The second church and hall located at 45th Avenue and Maryland Street is sold for $315,000.

1999

The Holy Ghost Romanian Orthodox Church, located at 61st Avenue and Harrison Street in Merrillville, welcomes us to their parish while our church is under construction. We participate in shared services at their parish until our church is completed.

May 1999

Father Deacon Gregory Norris joins our parish.

January 30, 2000

The first service is held at the newly completed third church located at 8600 Grand Boulevard in Merrillville.

May 7, 2000

Our new Church is consecrated and and the Hall is blessed along with the new iconostas.

April 15, 2002

Matushka Ann Rozdelsky falls asleep in the Lord.

March 2005

A member of our church, Seminarian Christopher Sarafin, is ordained as Deacon.

May 2009

Deacon Christopher Sarafin is ordained into the priesthood and assigned to our parish.

2010

St. Clement's Ohridski American Macedonian Orthodox Church in Merrillville, Indiana, joins our parish.

August 20, 2010

Rev. Blagoy Topuzliev, our former pastor, falls asleep in the Lord.

September 30, 2011 – October 2, 2011

Centennial of the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church is celebrated.

HISTORY OF ST. CLEMENT OHRIDSKI AMERICAN MACEDONIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (the only recognized, canonical, Macedonian Orthodox Parish in the U.S. and perhaps the world!)

A group of approximately forty families met in early spring of 1972 to discuss the organization of a new parish in Gary, Indiana to be named St. Clement of Ohridski American Macedonian Orthodox Church. They petitioned then, the Archbishop John of the Midwest Diocese, for acceptance into the Autocephalous Orthodox Church in America (OCA). The founding priest was the Very Reverend Spiro Tanaskoski. Pope Spiro was also the founding priest of another parish in Gary, Indiana in 1961, which he left due to the then political climate in the Macedonian Orthodox Church in Skopia, Yugoslavia. The Macedonians in Northwest Indiana were the "orphans" of the Orthodox Christian community until then.

The St. Clement Ohridski American Macedonian Orthodox Parish was accepted on May 30, 1972, by the Holy Synod of Bishops, headed then by His Beatitude, Metropolitan Ireney, into the Canonical jurisdiction of the Orthodox Church in America as part of the Midwest Diocese. The Orthodox Church in America is now headed by His Beatitude Theodosius in New York and the Midwest Diocese is headed by, His Grace, Bishop Job in Chicago. The Autocephaly was a dream come true for Pope Spiro and his parishioners. St. Clement of Ohridski became the first recognized, canonical, Macedonian Orthodox parish in the United States and perhaps the world! This parish will lead the way for the other Macedonian Orthodox parishes in the world to be recognized some day. The Orthodox Church in America (OCA) is comprised of many ethnic groups, some having their own dioceses within, and converts, united in one Holy Orthodox Church in America. The OCA has churches in the United States, Canada, and Australia, and is growing every day.

The original church was located at 3935 Washington Street in Gary, Indiana. Quickly, the facilities in Gary became inadequate for the expanding congregation. In 1974, the parish completed the purchase of a three-acre parcel in Merrillville, Indiana. The parish increased the scope of fund raising activities to finance a new church and cultural center. The flurry of activity in the next several years seem to have blended smoothly into a continuous concerted effort to bring the reality of the ground breaking ceremonies of the new church at 5444 Harrison Street, Merrillville, Indiana 46410 in 1978. In June of 1979, the parish moved into its new church edifice. Pope Spiro's great patience and understanding provided the necessary steady hand at the tiller when our craft began to traverse rough waters. His leadership, coupled with that of the parish council, was often the deciding factor in the making of crucial decisions correctly. On August 9, 1981, the new church was consecrated by His Beatitude Theodosius, Metropolitan of the Orthodox Church in America along with His Grace, Bishop Boris of the Midwest Diocese. In 1990, the mortgage on the church was dissolved through hard work at fish fries, catering, and generous donations.

Today, St Clement Ohridski in Merrillville, Indiana entered into a new phase in its history. In January of 2010, St. Clement Ohridski in Merrillville, IN merged with the Protection of the Virgin Mary in Merrillville. Many parishioners are second, third and fourth generations here in America from all parts of Macedonia. St. Clement has adapted to change with the changing times. Mostly, the English language is used during liturgies, along with Macedonian. The younger favor the English language, so that they and their children can better understand their Orthodox religion. St. Clement Ohridski American Macedonian Orthodox Church stands poised and ready to help other Macedonian Orthodox parishes willing to be canonically accepted into the OCA.

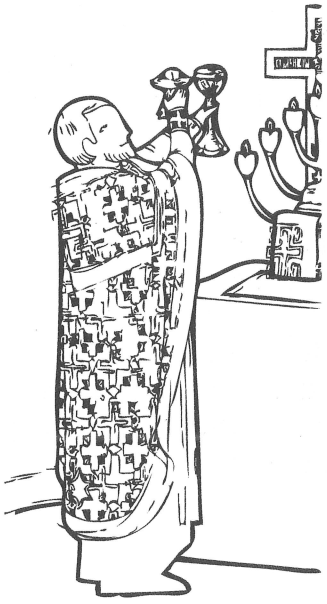
In Memoriam

Archpriest Rev. Benjamin Kedrovsky 1911-1968
Rt. Rev. Peter Rozdelsky 1961-1986
Protodeacon Roman Svihra 10/14/84
Rev. Thomas Brown 1990-1991
Rev. Blagoy Topuzliev 1992-1994

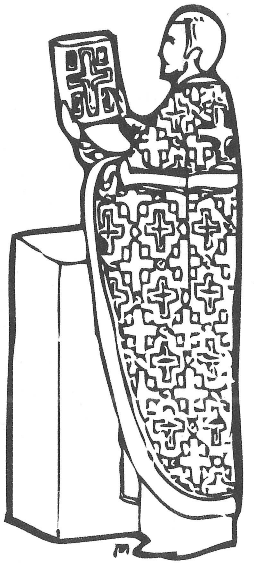
Other Priests Serving This Parish

Rev. S. Garklavs 1957-1961
Rev. John Zabinko 1987-1990
Rev. William Bass 1994-1996
Rev. James Doyle 1996
Rev. Peter Bodnar 1996-Present
Rev. Christopher Sarafin 2009-Present

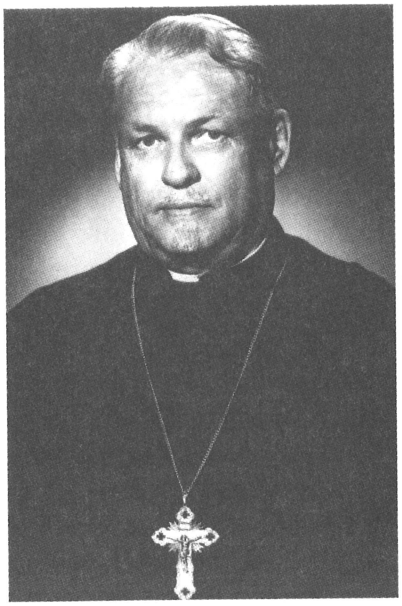
Sons of the Parish Now Serving the Lord



Rev. Theodore Panchak
Rev. David Cochran



Fr. Benjamin Kedrovsky



Benjamin Kedrovsky was born in the village of Votcha, Totemskii district, Vologda Oblast in the Russian Empire on August 28, 1888. The Kedrovsky family's home parish was St. Michael the Archangel. Benjamin's father, Nicholas Kedrovsky, was a deacon in the church. As was customary at the time, young Benjamin and at least three older brothers followed their father into the clergy.

In 1902, he entered the Vologda Ecclesiastical Seminary to begin his study for the priesthood, but in the fifth year of his studies, Benjamin was expelled. In correspondence between his brother and a church superior, it was explained that Benjamin's association with student activists during this tumultuous period in Russian life -- and his reluctance to identify his classmates to administration -- led to his dismissal from seminary.

Eager to continue his education and to continue on the path toward priesthood, Benjamin emigrated to the United States on July 3, 1909, at the age of 21. Three months later, the young man was working as a choir director and reader at an Orthodox parish in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Within a year, Kedrovsky moved across the state to Pittsburgh, and in October of 1910 began serving as choir director at St. Michael's Russian Orthodox Church on Reed Street while continuing his studies.

It was here he met his future wife. Born in Pittsburgh in 1892 to Galician immigrants, 19-year-old Julia Dmitrievna Varnovskaya and the new choir director courted and were married on August 4. It was then only three months before Julia's new husband concluded his studies, traveled to New York City, and was ordained into the priesthood on October 29 in St. Nicholas Cathedral. Eleven days later, Father Benjamin Kedrovsky arrived in the young city of Gary, Indiana. It was November 9, 1911.

Fr. Benjamin assumed pastoral duties over Gary's newly formed Russian Orthodox parish on November 22, 1911. He would go on to serve as the priest at The Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church for 47 years -- during which time the congregation constructed a church building at 17th and Fillmore streets in 1912; acquired the land for the parish cemetery on West Ridge Road in 1919; renovated and refurbished the church in 1922; and expanded at an almost exponential rate, much in the same way that the city itself boomed. Fr. Benjamin learned the English language and went to the steel mills in Gary as a spokesperson for his parishioners who were seeking employment and struggled with the English language. The Kedrovskys raised their four children in the Orthodox faith -- sons George, Victor and Vladimir, and a daughter, Vera. Fittingly, to quote Fr. Benjamin himself: "One could say that the city of Gary and the parish grew up at the same time."

Fr. Benjamin was very involved in the faith. He was very active in the church school, held in the basement below the rectory built on church grounds, where he promoted an understanding of Orthodox faith and of greater Russian culture. Notably, he served as president of the Midwest Diocese's Chicago Deanery from 1917 until 1958, and was also a regular contributor to the American Orthodox Messenger.

Fr. Benjamin's efforts at promoting Orthodoxy culminated when Gary declared a "Russian Orthodox Day" in October of 1928, when the nation's Metropolitan, as well as the bishops of Chicago, San Francisco and Canada arrived to celebrate Divine Liturgy.

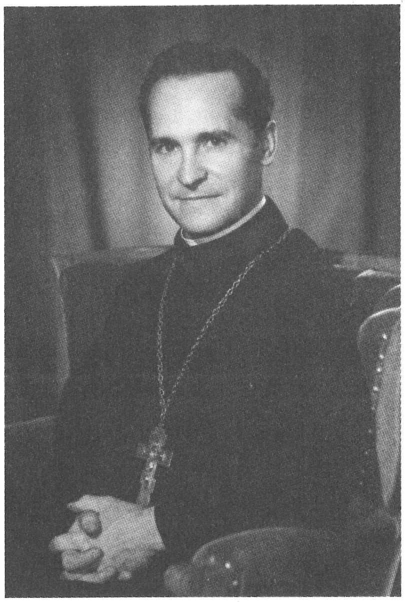
Hearkening back to his time as a choir director, Fr. Benjamin was especially proud of the parish's excellent choir that won renown after placing first in the 1930 and '31 Gary and Chicagoland Music Festivals. And in 1931, upon the 20th anniversary of the parish's founding and during Gary's Silver Jubilee, he published a book, In God's Field, a history of St. Mary's and his observations of a life doing God's work.

In 1951, after decades of service and on the parish's patron saint day, Fr. Benjamin was elevated to the rank of Right Reverend by the Holy Synod of Bishops and granted the honor of wearing the mitre. He continued to lead the parish until his retirement in 1958, just before its move to its longtime location at 45th and Maryland Streets in the Glen Park section of the city. At his retirement, the congregation named him Pastor Emeritus for his nearly 50 years of faithful stewardship.

On Nobember 25, 1968, not long after the church celebrated its 57th anniversary, Benjamin Kedrovsky passed away. He was 80. But his contributions to the early success of the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church cannot be understated; Fr. Benjamin left an indelible impression on the parish's life and its growth, and that of the city of Gary, Indiana, itself.

May his memory be eternal!

V. Rev. Sergei Garklavs



V. Rev. Sergei Garklavs was born in Latvia in December 1927 to parents George and Yvdikia. Rev. Sergei served as an altar server as a youth. He was separated from his parents in 1944 during World War II, and spent five years in a refugee camp with a group of clergy in Nuremberg, Germany, before emigrating to the United States in 1949.

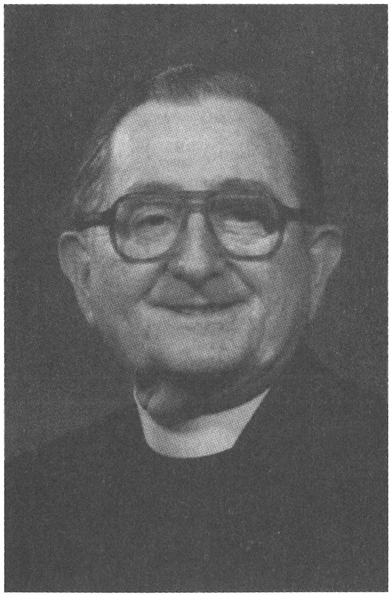
He was married to Alexandria, whom he had met briefly in Europe, in 1950. The couple would have five children together: George, Mary, Olga, Paul and Alexander, who is now a priest.

Shortly after their marriage, Rev. Sergei continued his studies toward the priesthood at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in New York. He was ordained a deacon in 1950.

In 1957, he was ordained into the priesthood. Rev. Sergei's first assignment was as assistant pastor to Fr. Benjamin Kedrovsky at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church in Gary, Indiana. He became the parish pastor upon Fr. Benjamin's retirement in 1959.

In 1960, Rev. Sergei was transferred to a church in Argo, Illinois, where he remained until 1983, when he was reassigned to Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral in Chicago, Illinois. He served at the cathedral until his retirement and remains attached to the cathedral.

Mitred Archpriest Peter Rozdelsky



Fr. Peter Rozdelsky was born on October 13, 1916, to immigrant parents Peter and Mary Rozdilski, in Hudson, Pennsylvania.

He briefly attended Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, before enrolling in the newly formed St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary in South Canaan, Pennsylvania. He graduated in 1943.

While studying for the priesthood, he was introduced to Ann Homyk of Herkimer, New York. They were married in 1943 and would have three children: Rosalie, Mary Ann Bertram and Nicholas, all of whom remain very active in the church.

In 1943, Fr. Peter was ordained to the Holy Diaconate and only two weeks later to the Holy Priesthood at the Cathedral of the Holy Virgin Protection in New York, New York.

Fr. Peter's first two parishes were located in Berlin and Claremont, New Hampshire. He was later assigned to the St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Akron, Ohio, to assist the ailing Fr. Afanasy Hubiak. Following the passing of Fr. Hubiak, Fr. Peter was appointed full-time rector. During his stay there, he was instrumental in building a new church and rectory. He and Matushka Ann served the parishioners lovingly for fifteen years.

In 1960, Fr. Peter was assigned to the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church in Gary, Indiana, where he and Matushka Ann would continue to serve the church for twenty-five years.

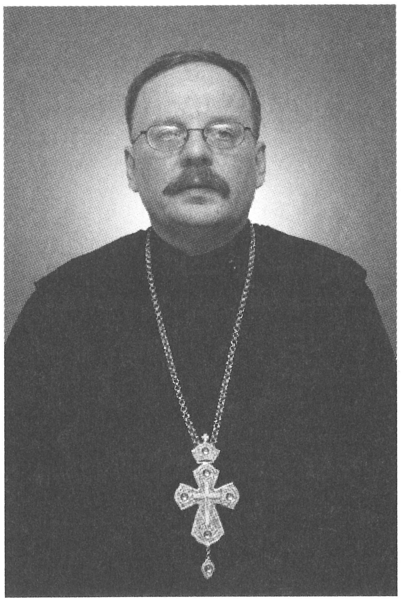
While in Gary, Father Peter accomplished many things. He became President of the Northwest Indiana Orthodox Clergy Association which coordinated activities among all Orthodox Churches in Northwest Indiana, and was appointed Dean of the Chicago Deanery. In his role as Dean, he instituted an annual Chicago Church School Teachers' Council that unified the various programs in the area.

Fr. Peter was later appointed Chancellor of the Diocese of the Midwest where he faithfully assisted both Archbishop John and Bishop Boris with their duties.

Father Peter stayed very active in all of his priestly duties until his passing on November 23, 1986. This year marks the 25th anniversary of his passing and he is still fondly remembered by his parishioners and fellow clergy.

May his memory be eternal!

Fr. John Zabinko



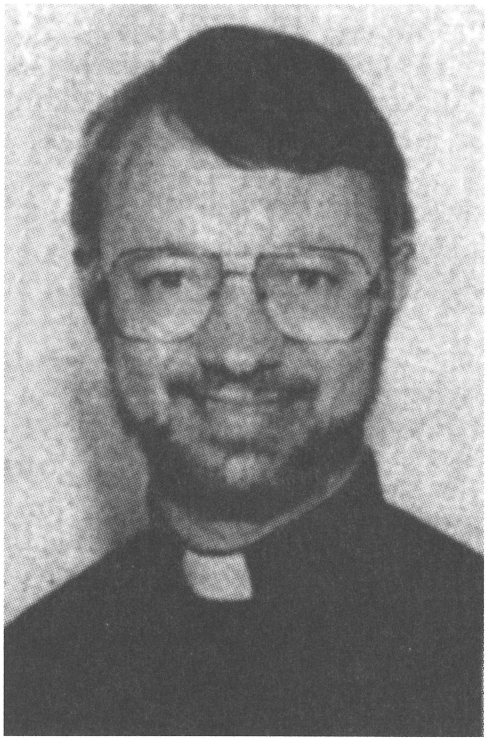
John Zabinko was born in Wilmington, Delaware, in 1955 to parents Onufry and Dorothy. The family attended St. Michael's Orthodox Church in Wilmington, where John was raised in the Orthodox faith.

John graduated from St. Tikhon's Orthodox Seminary in Pennsylvania in 1978, and was wed to Margaret Greene in 1981, before being ordained into the priesthood in 1982. Fr. John's first assignment was at Three Saints Orthodox Church in Old Harbor, Alaska, on Kodiak Island. His service was in conjunction with an assignment to the Protection of the Mother of God Church on the far side of the island. His son, Matthew, was born in Kodiak during Fr. John's assignment.

In May, 1987, Fr. John was assigned to the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church in Gary, Indiana. He spent three years with the parish before being reassigned to the Holy Resurrection Church in Kodiak, Alaska, in June, 1990.

Fr. John is currently assigned to St. Innocent Cathedral in Anchorage, Alaska, where he serves as the cathedral's dean. Most of his parishioners are Alaskan natives raised in the Orthodox faith.

Fr. Thomas Brown



Father Thomas Brown was born in Arizona as Homuth Dale Brown to parents Cecil and Ethel Belle Brown. The family moved to Birmingham, Alabama, when Thomas was 3 years old. His mother remarried when Thomas was 13, and the new family relocated to Upstate New York.

In New York, Thomas attended and graduated from Phelps High school. He received a Masters of Arts from Houghton College, a Masters of Theology from Dallas Theological Seminary, and then served as a Baptist minister for five years. Thomas converted to Orthodoxy in 1982 and received a Masters of Divinity from St. Vladimir's Seminary in 1988. That same year he married Nadine Eskoff, was ordained an Orthodox priest, and was assigned to St. Innocent Parish in Westlake, Ohio. Fr. Brown's service in Orthodoxy had begun.

On November 1, 1990, Metropolitan Theodosius assigned Fr. Brown to the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church in Gary, Indiana. In the following months, Fr. Thomas monitored the first all-parish survey, revised the pre-confession booklet plus prayed for and loved all of his parishioners. At the conclusion of Divine Liturgy on August 4, 1991, Fr. Thomas Brown passed away in the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May his memory be eternal!

Fr. Blagoy Topuzliev

Fr. Archpriest Blagoy Topuzliev was born in Bulgaria in 1946. His father, Basil Topuzliev, was a priest, and many members of his family are members of the clergy in Bulgaria including his brother, Metropolitan Dometian of Vidin Diocese, another brother, Fr. Archpriest Milko Topuzliev, and Fr. Milko's son, Fr. Basil Topuzliev.

Fr. Blagoy completed his theological studies in Bulgaria, and was ordained a priest in Bulgaria where he served the parish at St. Nedelya Orthodox Church for many years. He and Matushka Elisaveta had two children together: Dimitur and Rosiza.

From 1993 to 1994, Fr. Blagoy served as the pastor at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church in Gary, Indiana, before being reassigned. In August 2007, Fr. Blagoy was assigned to Kyril and Metodi Bulgarian Orthodox Cathedral in New York City as cathedral priest. He served there until August 2010 when he fell asleep in the Lord.

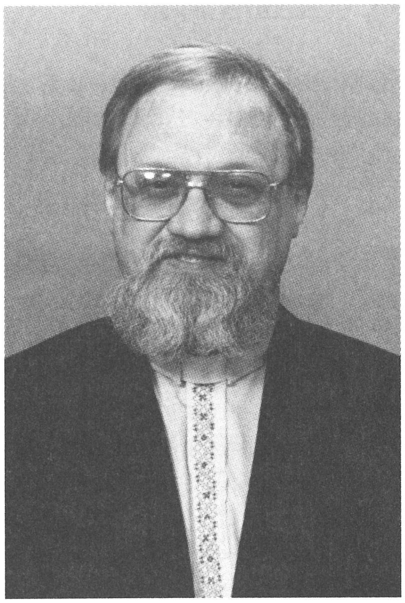
Fr. Blagoy is remembered as an erudite theologian, and a caring pastor. Fr. Blagoy's body was returned to Bulgaria, where his funeral service was performed by Metropolitan Nikolay of Plovdiv and Fr. Blagoy's brother, Metropolitan Dometian of Vidin. His burial was in Plovdid, Bulgaria. Fr. Blagoy and Matushka Elisaveta's two children and their families reside in New York City.

May his memory be eternal!

Fr. William Bass

Fr. William Bass is the pastor at St. Elizabeth's Orthodox Church in Chesterton, Indiana. He served at Protection of the Virgin Mary from 1994-1996. He and his wife Jean have 3 children.

Fr. Peter Bodnar



Fr. Peter Bodnar was born in Edmonton, Alberta, the eldest son of Nicholas and Nadeya Bodnar and raised in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada, serving as an altar boy for the Archbishop at St. John Cathedral in Edmonton.

After working various jobs, attending university and technical schools, Fr. Peter entered St. Andrew's Seminary in Winnipeg in 1970, graduating in 1974 with a Licentiate of Theology degree. Fr. Peter worked and participated in all the lay organizations of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada, at the local, provincial and national levels.

In 1973, he married Cynthia Brischuk. They have 4 children and 3 grandchildren: Theodore, Phillip, Lileah & Mark Vandygriff (Cole and Bryce), Gabriel & Aimee (Liam).

He was ordained to the deaconate in 1975 and to the priesthood in 1976.

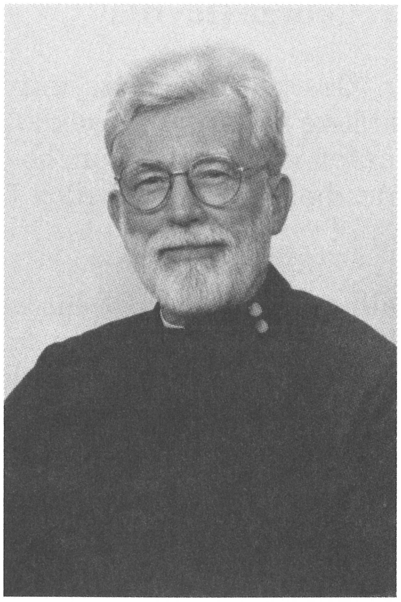
Parishes served:

Ituna, Saskatchewan and eight other parishes 1976 - 1980;
Willingdon, Alberta and 14 other parishes 1980 - 1981;
Vernon, British Columbia and 2 other parishes 1981 - 1984;
Accepted into the Orthodox Church of America in 1984 and served 3 mission parishes for 6 years;
Minot, North Dakota (included Bismarck and mission points) 1990 - 1996;
Protection of the Virgin Mary in Merrillville since 1996.

Thanks to my wife, Cynthia, for all her help and patience over the years.

Thanks especially and always to our Saviour for His mercy, and love and granting us the privilege to serve Him.

Fr. Dcn. Gregory (Edwin) Norris



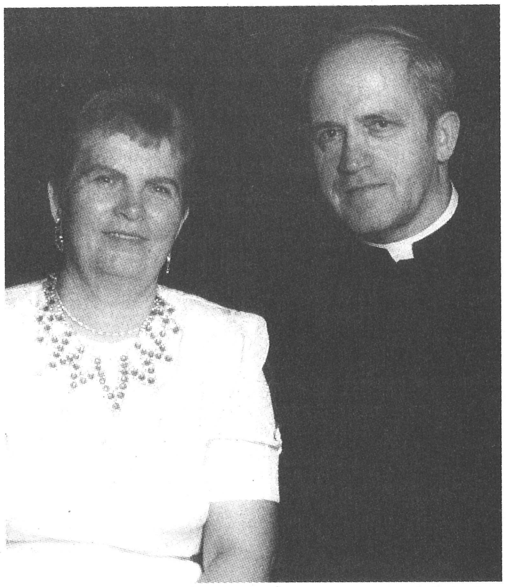
Fr. Gregory was born in Akron, Ohio, on Sept. 4, 1929, and was baptized in the Episcopal Church in 1930. He moved to Denver in 1939 with his mother and a younger brother. In 1947, Edwin graduated high school from Colorado Military School in Denver and began work at the University of Denver, studying violin at the music school. Edwin joined the US Army when the Korean War started in 1950, spending half of his three-year tour of duty in Alaska, where he became active in the Church for the first time.

After getting out of the Army in 1953, he returned to the Univ. of Denver and got a BA degree with emphases in French, philosophy and history, all in preparation for going to Seminary to study for the priesthood. After a year at Nashotah House Seminary in Wisconsin he went to an Episcopal Benedictine monastery, St. Gregory's Priory in Three Rivers, Michigan, staying there from 1956 to 1969. Upon canonical release from the monastery, Fr. Edwin moved to Chicago and was elected Rector of the Church of the Ascension, a parish notable for its historic place in the Anglo-Catholic tradition within Anglicanism, beginning on January 1, 1971.

Having first found Orthodoxy through Timothy Ware's book The Orthodox Church in the mid-1960s, Fr. Edwin found himself increasingly drawn to it as years and events took place. He decided to retire early and to be joined to the Holy Orthodox Church. After 23 years as Rector at the Church of the Ascension, he retired on January 1, 1994. He was chrismated at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Chicago on Lazarus Saturday 1994 and was ordained as Deacon Gregory by Archbishop JOB on Pentecost 2000.

Shortly after his ordination, Fr. Gregory began serving with Fr. Peter at the Protection of the Virgin Mary in Merrillville, Indiana. He moved to Dallas in 2004 and has been serving at St. Seraphim Cathedral under Archbishop DMITRI since that time.

Fr. George Havrila



Fr. George Havrila was born on March 3, 1935, in Sarisske Jastrabie, Slovakia, to parents Andrej and Zuzana. As a young man, he entered into study for the priesthood at the Orthodox Theological College in the city of Presov.

Father George married his wife, Anna Slacha, on June 9, 1956, at the Holy Ascension Orthodox Church in the town of Bezovce. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1956, and his first assignment was the parish of St. Luke the Apostle and Evangelist in Kurov, County Bardejov, Slovakia.

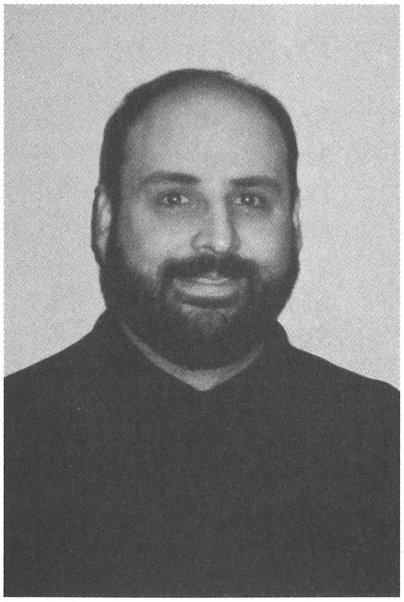
In 1957, Father George completed his Masters degree as an Orthodox theologian from the Orthodox Theological College in Presov. While serving in Kurov, he was arrested by the Communist regime along with other priests and was sentenced to twelve years of prison, although he did not serve his full sentence. Father George's relatives in the United States assisted in his emigration to America in 1970 where he began serving at the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Church in Stratford, Connecticut. He was later reassigned as pastor of St. Mary's parish in Dickson City, Pennsylvania, in March 1970.

Father George and Matushka Anna have five children: sons Marian, Valerian and Benjamin, and daughters Anna and Natalia as well as eleven grandchildren.

Father George has received many awards for his spiritual work, along with an academic award – a Magister of Theology from Paul Joseph Safarik University in Kosice, Slovakia. His most recent award was from the same university – A Pedagogical Educational Doctorate.

Father George is retired and often serves at Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church.

Fr. Christopher Sarafin



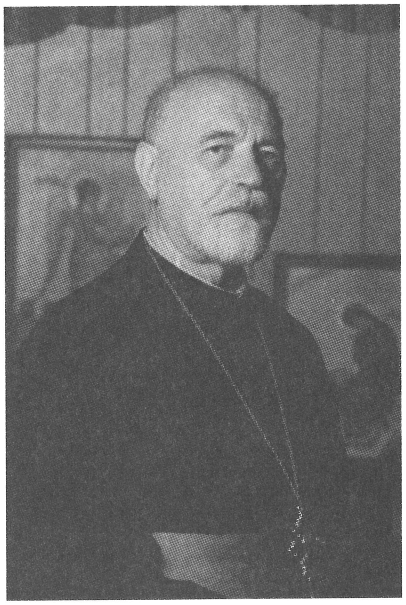
Fr. Christopher Steve Sarafin was born in East Chicago, Indiana in 1969 to parents Steve and Rita Sarafin. A lifelong resident of Northwest Indiana, he grew up in St. Clement of Ochrid Macedonian Orthodox Church in Merrillville, Indiana.

After high school, Fr. Chris attended St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary and Marywood University for 18 months before returning to Indiana. He married Cheryl Marks in 1991 at Sts. Constantine and Helen Orthodox Cathedral in Merrillville. In 2001, the couple returned to St. Tikhon's so Chris could continue his studies.

On March 11, 2006, Fr. Chris was ordained into the Diaconate by His Eminence, Archbishop Job of Chicago and the Midwest, at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church in Merrillville, Indiana. Participating clergy included Rector at Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church Fr. Peter Bodnar, Fr. John Merrick, Fr. Elijah Mueller and Fr. George Havrila.

In May 2008, Fr. Chris graduated from Purdue University North Central with a Bachelors of Liberal Studies degree, and was ordained into the priesthood on May 16, 2009. Fr. Chris and Mat. Cheryl live in Valparaiso with their three daughters, Elizabeth, Katherine, and Gabriella.

Fr. Spiro Tanaskoski



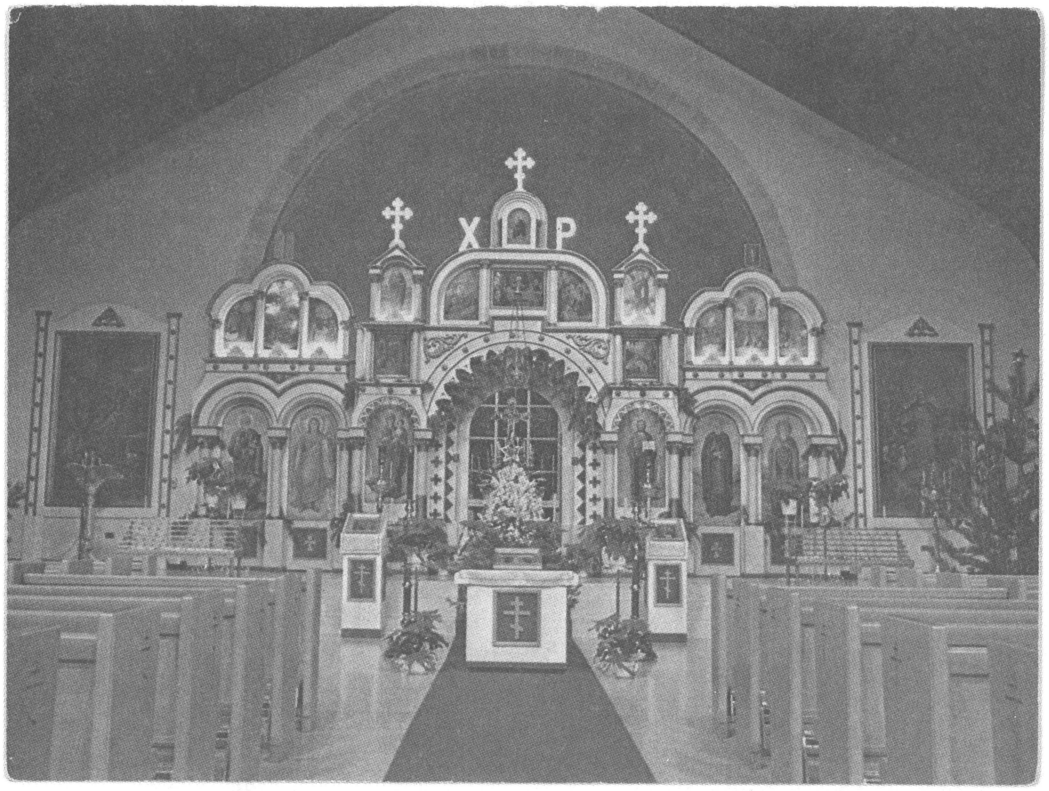
Spiro Tanaskoski was born in Smilevo, Macedonia on October 2, 1918. He married Ivanka in April, 1939 and graduated from seminary in Bitola in May, 1939. Over the next 20 years, Fr. Spiro pastored to the faithful in the Macedonian towns of Vrbjane, Raketnica, Smilevo, Brusnik and Bitola before emigrating to the United States in 1961 and settled in Gary, Indiana. Within the year, Fr. Spiro had organized the first Macedonian Orthodox Church in the United States: Sts. Peter and Paul at 51st and Virginia Streets in Gary, Indiana.

In 1972, with the help of friend Fr. Peter Rozdelsky, Fr. Spiro organized the first canonical American-Macedonian Church within the Orthodox Church in America, St. Clement of Ochrid. In 1973, he was accepted into membership of the Northwest Indiana Orthodox Clergy Association and served as an officer. In 1974 he organized the cash purchase of acreage at 5444 Harrison Street and in 1979 a church and building were completed on the lot.

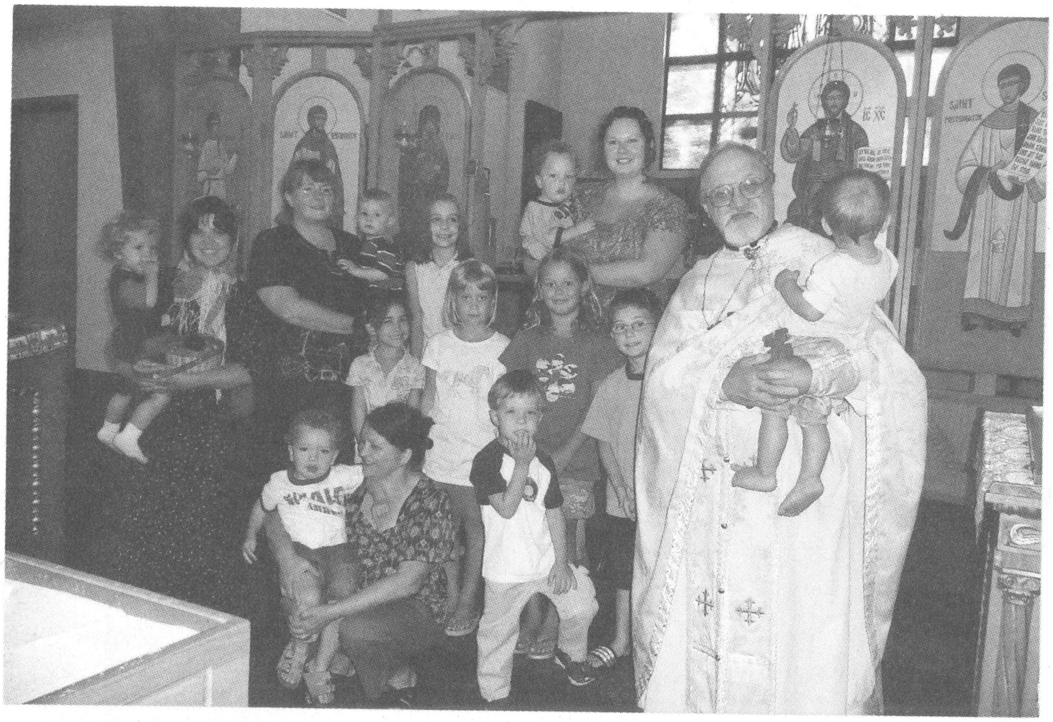
Fr. Spiro was a faithful man, dedicated to Christ and to his family. He had a very outgoing and magnetic personality, which made those who met him feel loved and special. He had a gift for teaching and preaching by weaving parables into every day conversation. At the 50th anniversary of his ordination, Fr. Spiro expressed his dream "To see all good Macedonians together on the proper road, with the Orthodox Church in America."

For 56 years, Father Spiro Tanaskoski preached Christianity to Macedonians and Americans.

May his memory be eternal!

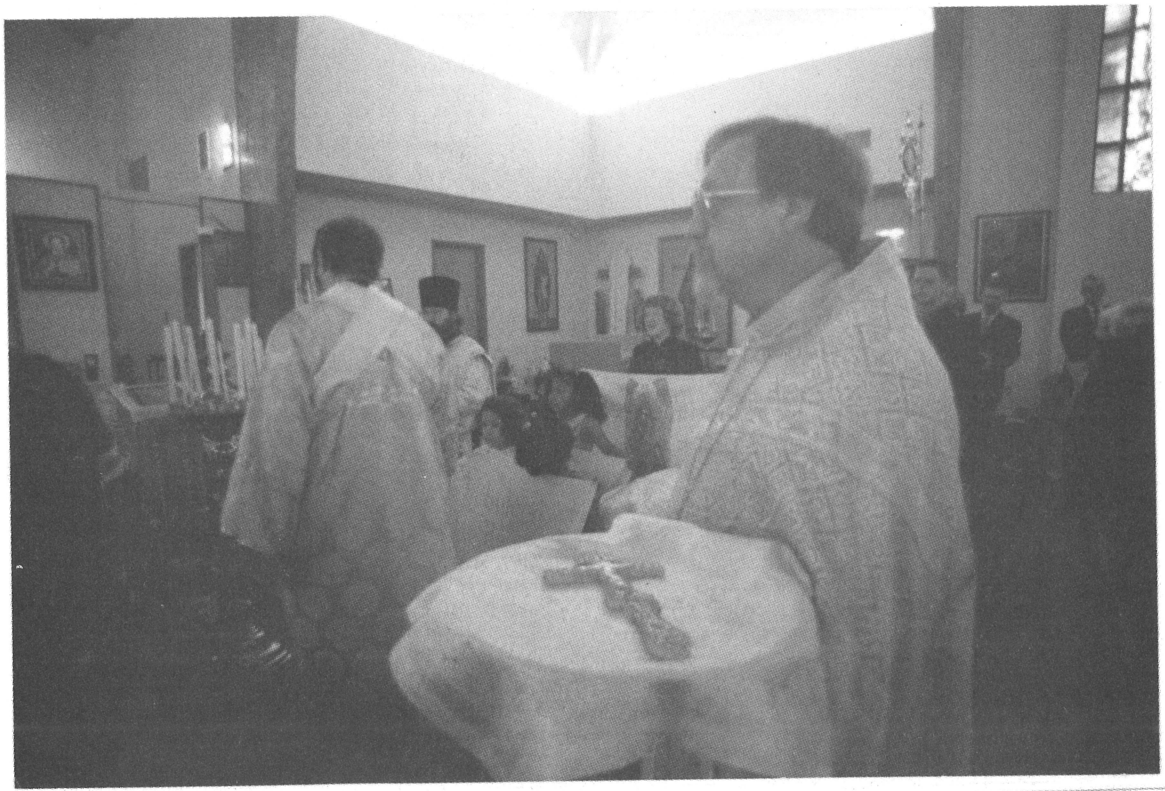


Iconostas at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church - 45th & Maryland Street, Gary, Indiana



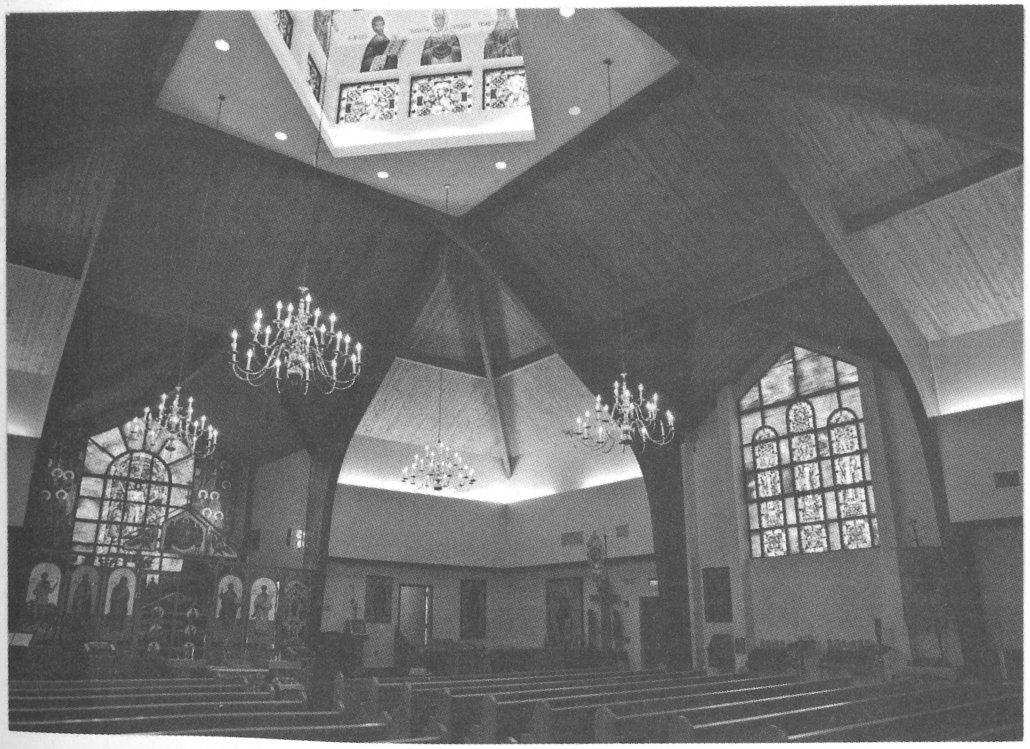
Father Peter Bodnar with youth in front of iconostas at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church - 8600 Grand Blvd., Merrillville, Indiana

Father John Zabinko with Choir Members late 1980's at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church, 45th & Maryland Street, Gary, Indiana

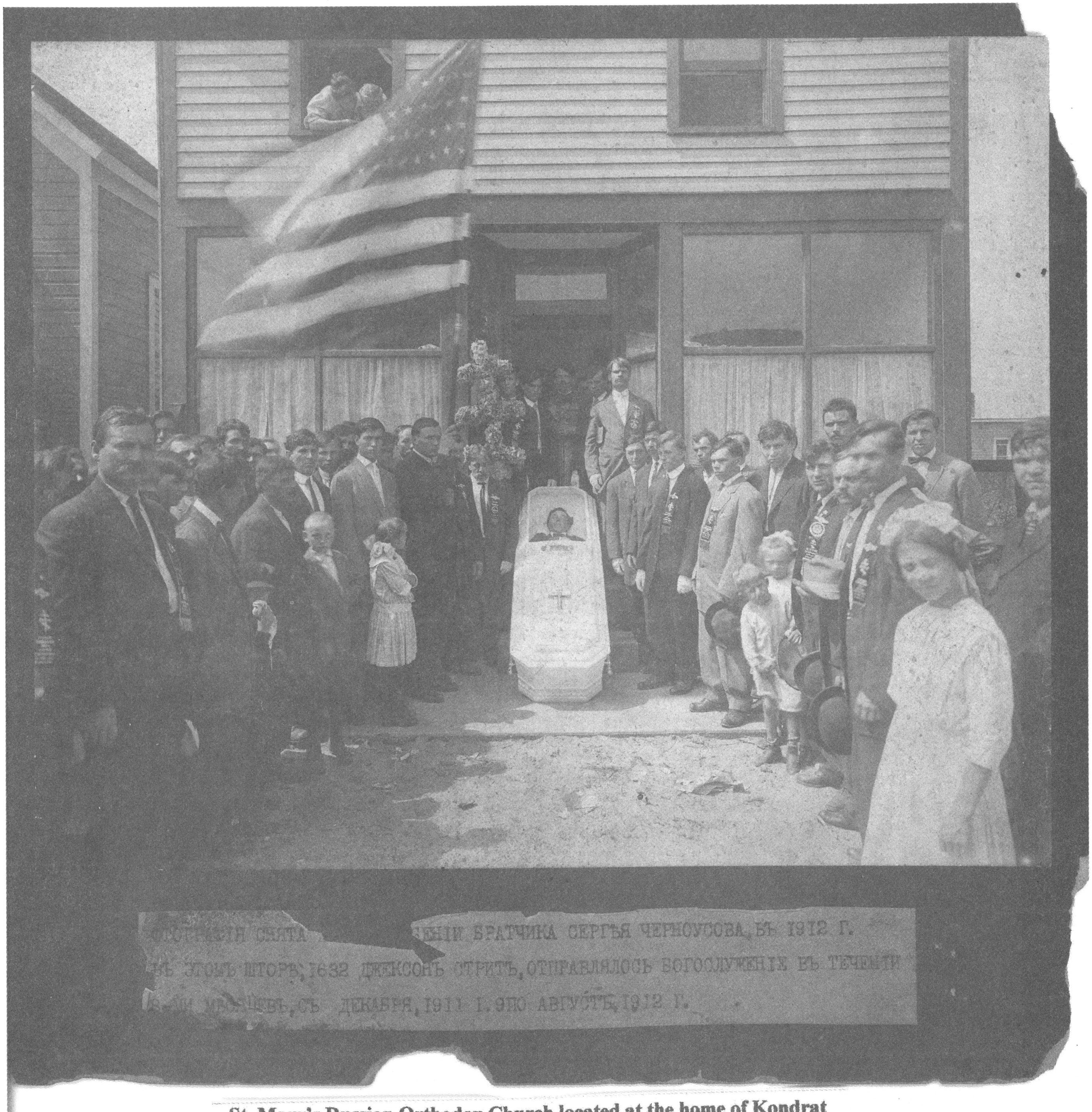


Father Peter Bodnar with other clergy at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church – 8600 Grand Blvd., Merrillville, Indiana 2000

Father Peter Rozdelsky with Church Choir at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church – 45th & Maryland Street, Gary, Indiana 1986

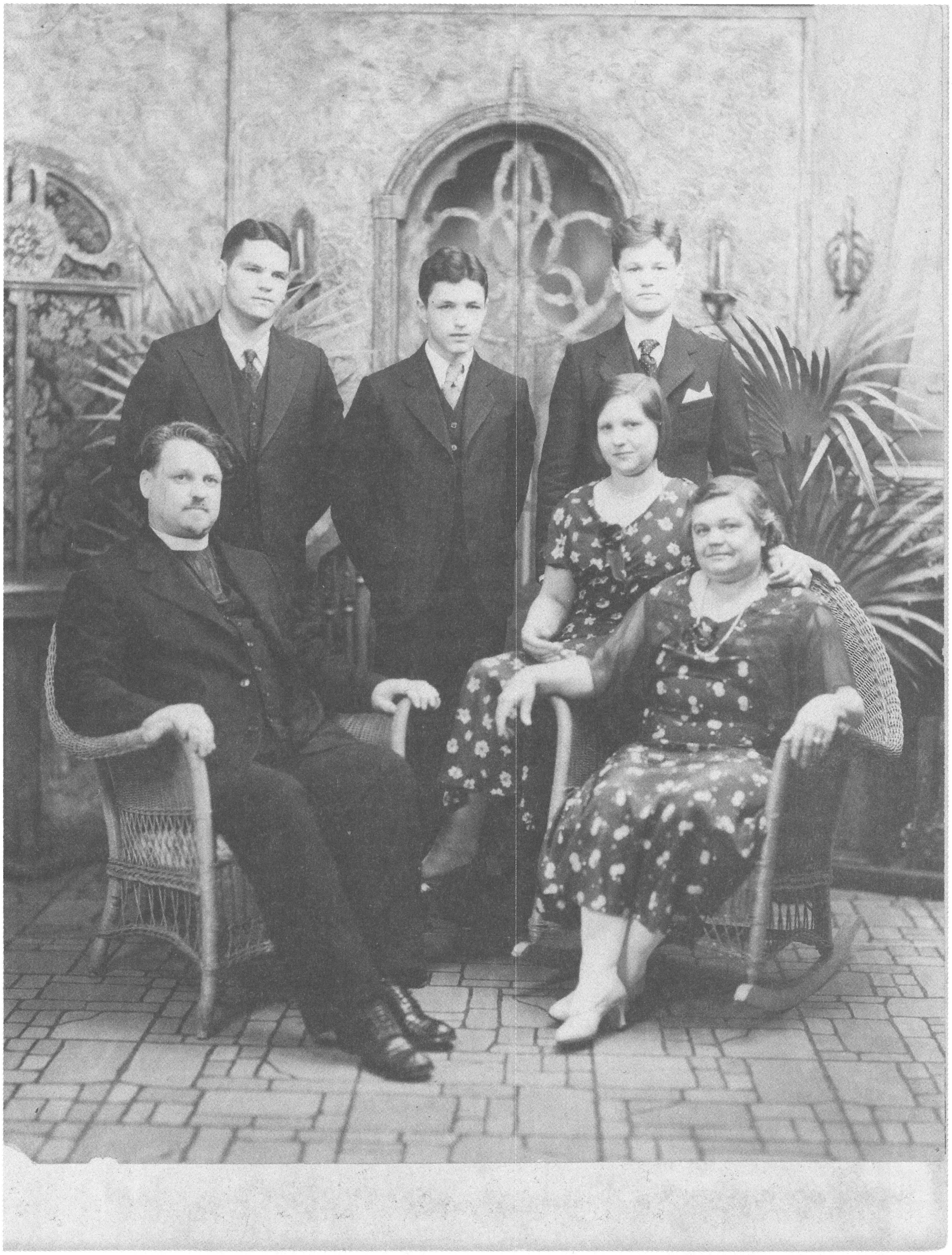


The Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church – 8600 Grand Blvd., Merrillville, Indiana 2011

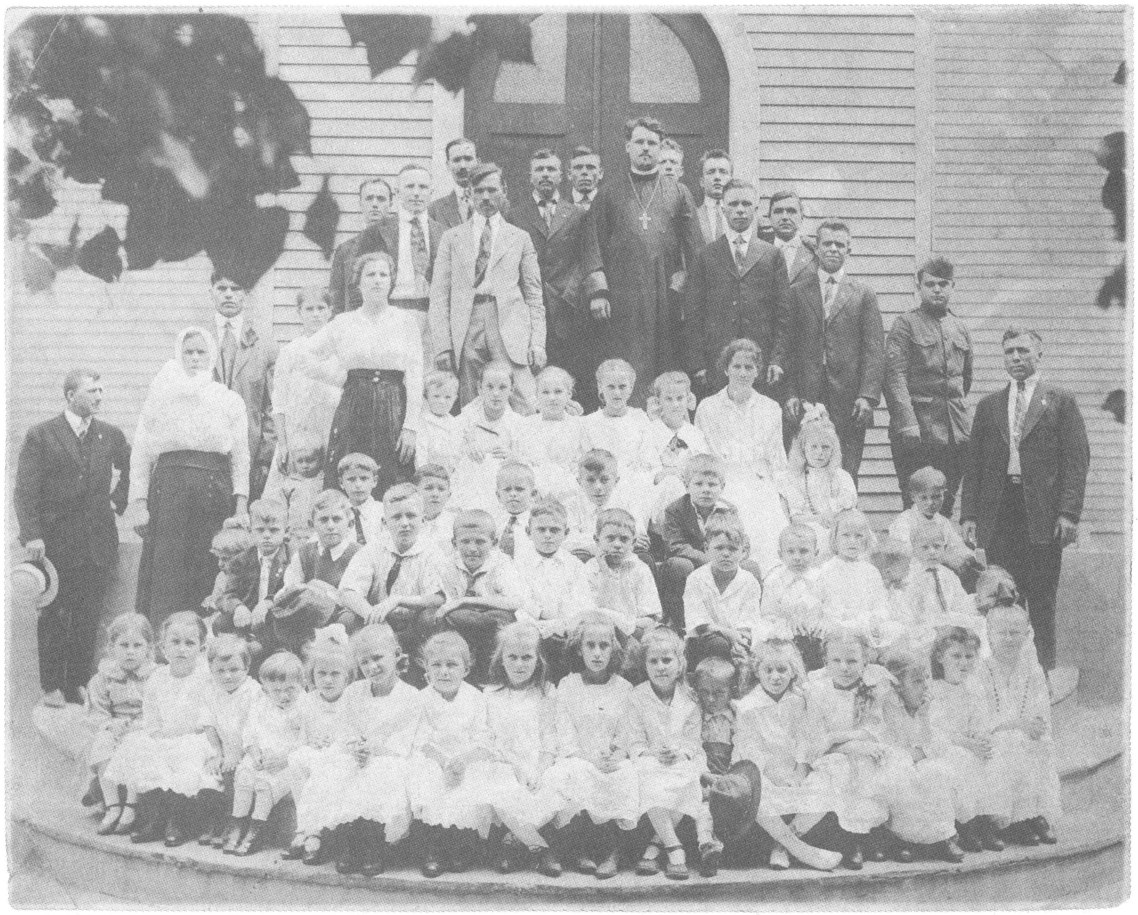

ОТОГРАФІЯ СНЯТА ЕНІИ БРАТЧИКА СЕРГЪЯ ЧЕРНОУСОВА, ВЪ 1912 Г.
ВЪ ЭТОМЪ ШТОРЪ, 1632 ДЖЕКСОНЪ СТРИТЪ, ОТПРАВЛЯЛОСЬ БОГОСЛУЖЕНІЕ ВЪ ТЕЧЕНІИ
МЕСЯЦЕВЪ, СЪ ДЕКАБРЯ, 1911 Г. ПО АВГУСТЪ, 1912 Г.

St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church located at the home of Kondrat and Anna Krenitzyk, 1632 Jackson Street, Gary, Indiana 1912

The first funeral held at St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church for Choir Director, Sergei Chernousob outside of St. Mary's first church which was located at the home of Kondrat and Anna Krenitzyk, 1632 Jackson Street, Gary, Indiana, Officiated by Fr. Benjamin Kedrovsky, August 1912

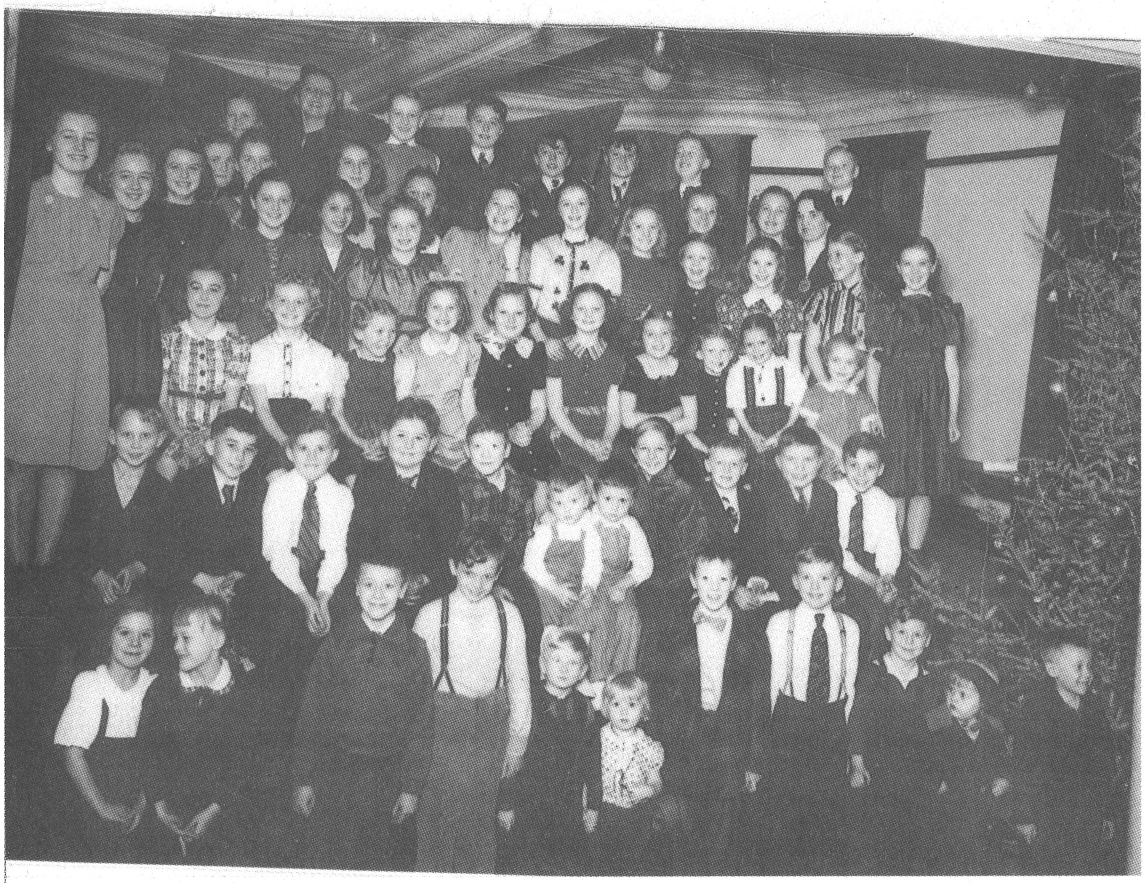


Pastor of St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church, Father Benjamin Kedrovsky with Matushka Julia Kedrovsky and their sons; George, Victor, Vladimir, and daughter Vera, Gary, Indiana 1931

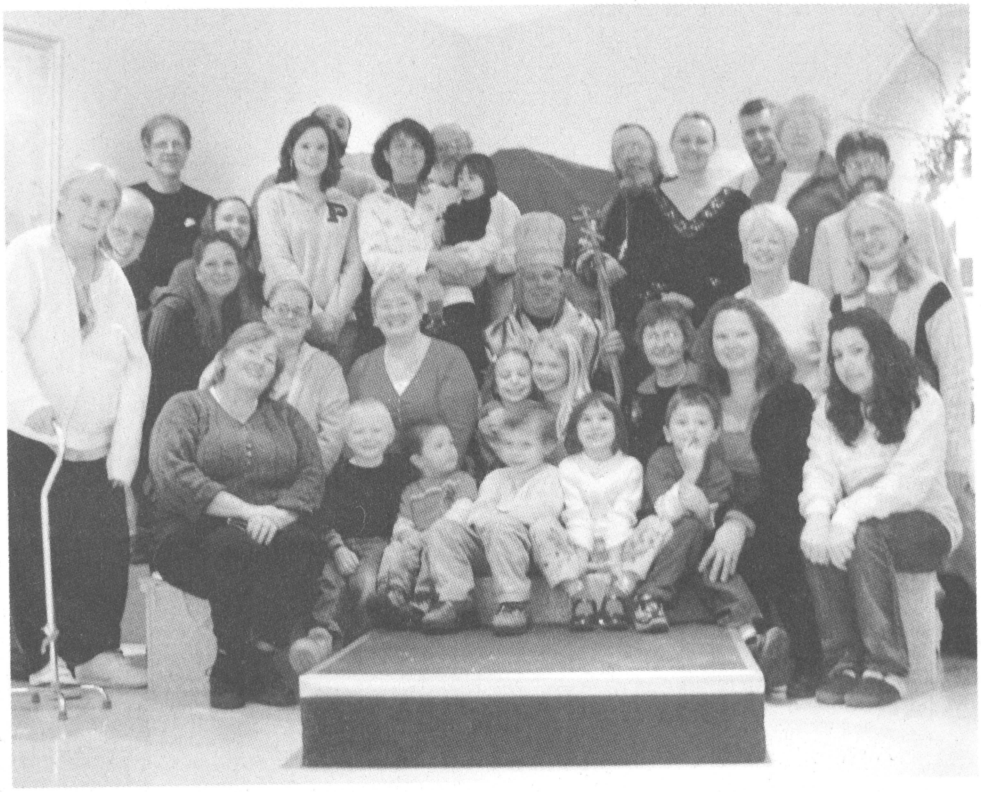


Fr. Benjamin Kedrovsky with church youth on steps of St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church – 17th & Fillmore Street, Gary, Indiana 1918

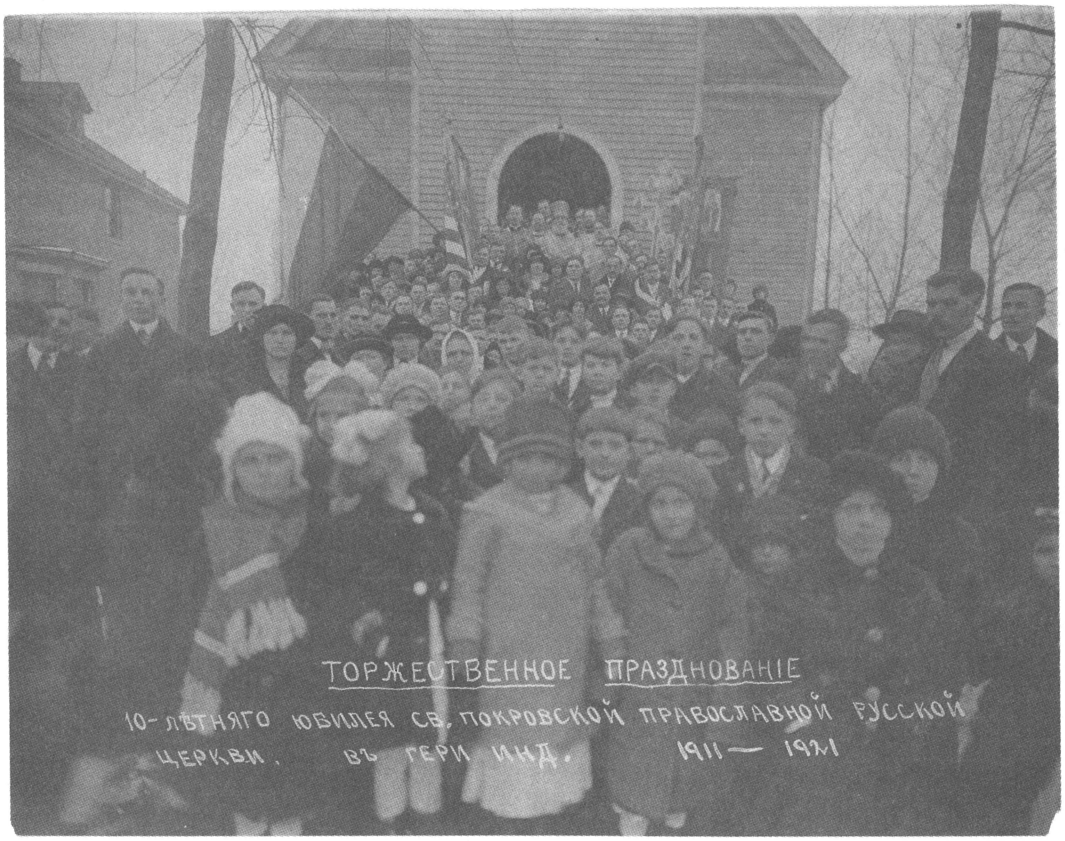
Russian language classes at St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church, 17th & Fillmore Street, Gary, Indiana 1931



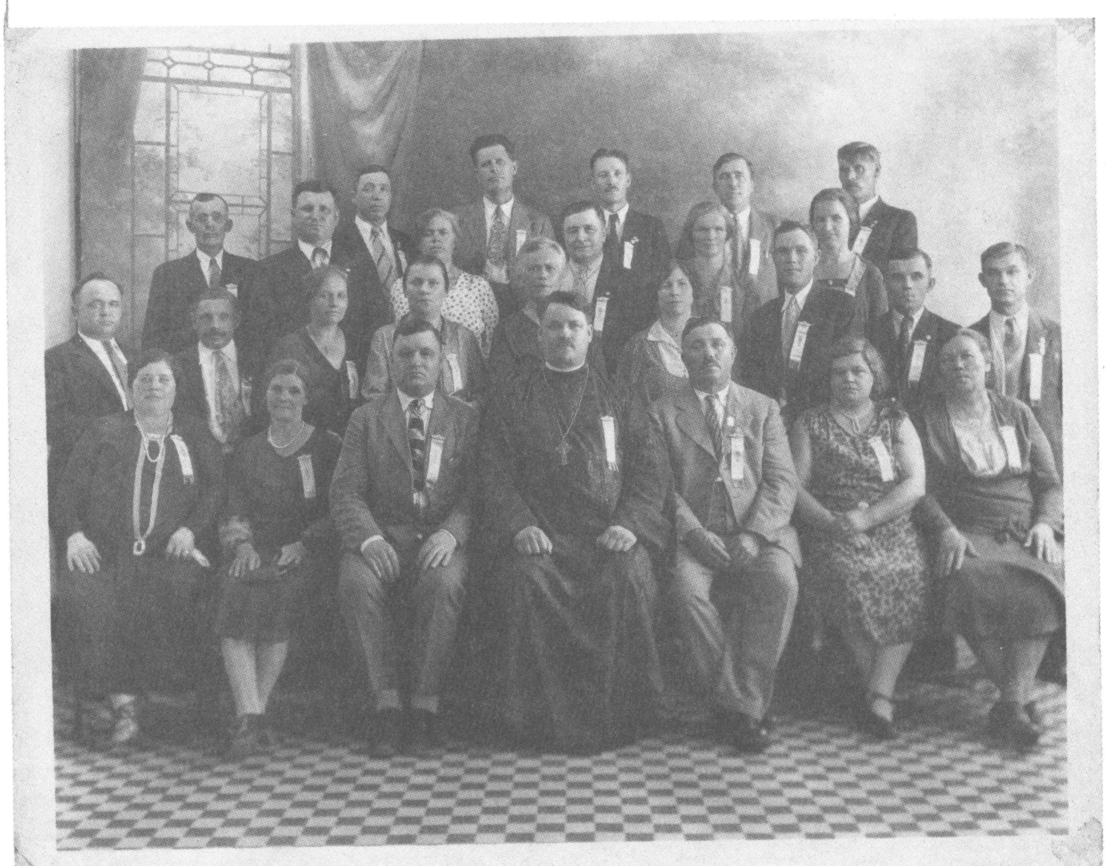
St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church Sunday School – 17th & Fillmore Street, Gary, Indiana Yolka, Christmas 1939



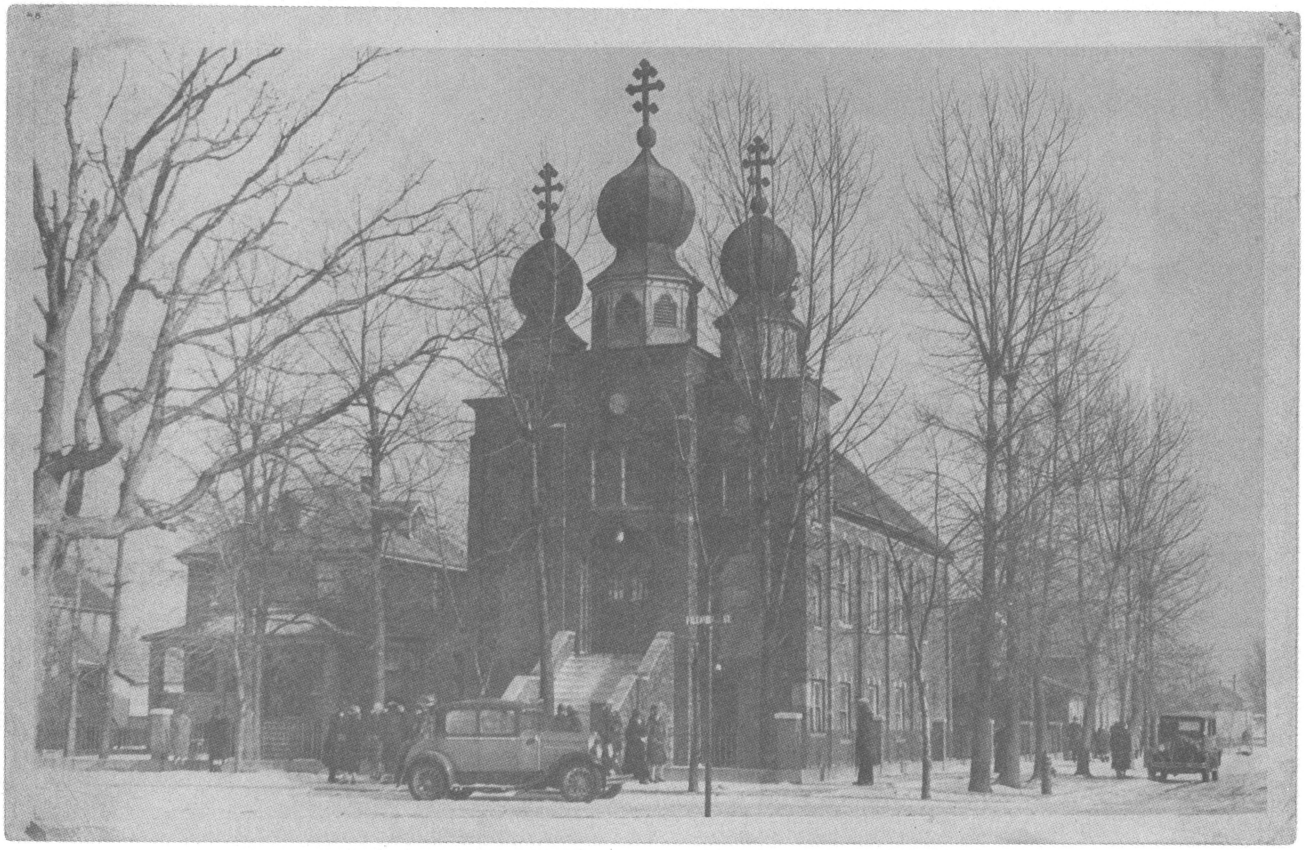
Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church – 8600 Grand Blvd., Merrillville, Indiana Yolka, Christmas 2010


ТОРЖЕСТВЕННОЕ ПРАЗДНОВАНIЕ
10-ЛѢТНЯГО ЮБИЛЕЯ СВ. ПОКРОВСКОЙ ПРАВОСЛАВНОЙ РУССКОЙ
ЦЕРКВИ. ВЪ ГЕРИ ИНД. 1911— 1921

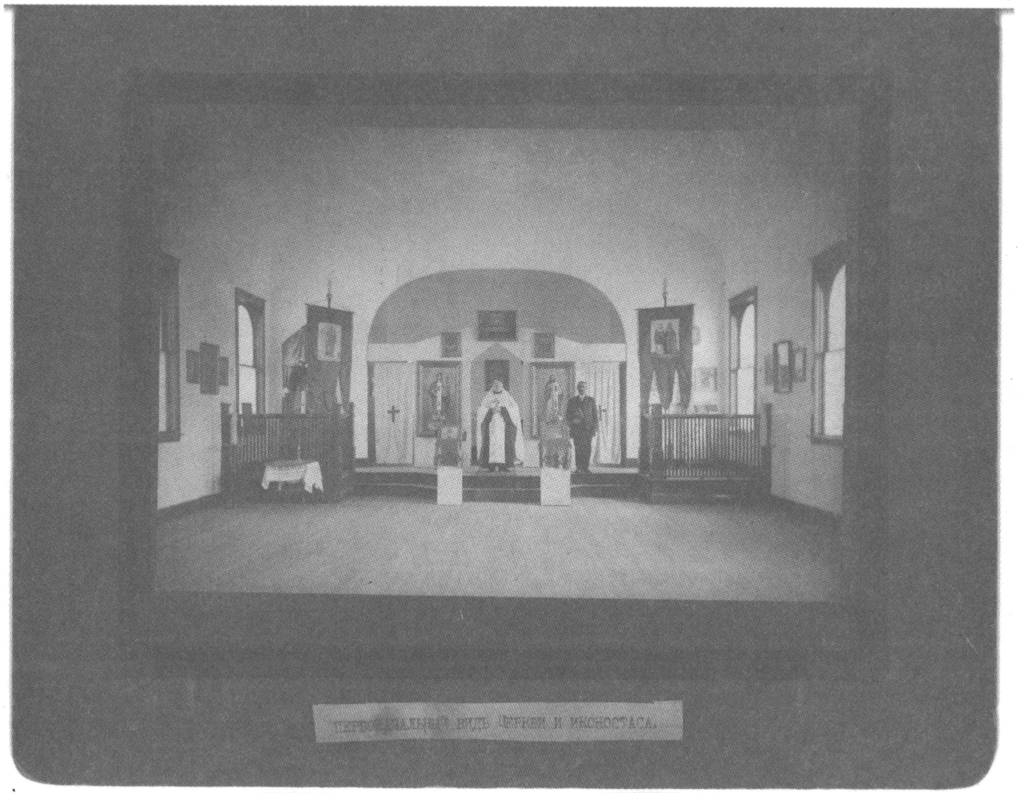
Celebration of the 10 Year Jubilee, St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church, 17th and Fillmore Street, Gary, Indiana 1911-1921



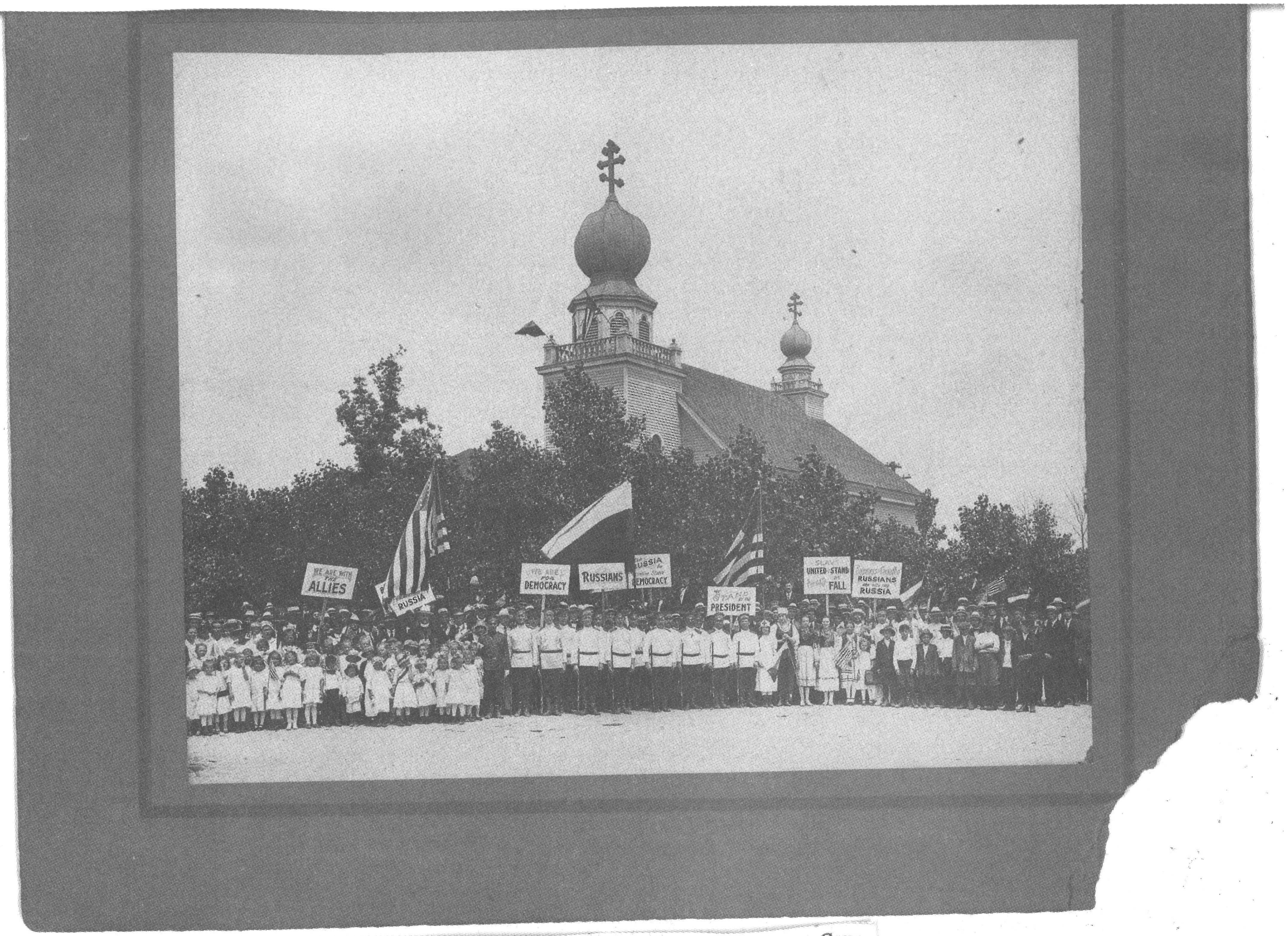
Charter Members with Father Benjamin Kedrovsky, St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church, 17th & Fillmore Street, Gary, Indiana 1931



St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church at 17th & Fillmore Street, Gary, Indiana after 1922 renovation including raising the church building, addition of two cupolas, and bricking of church structure.

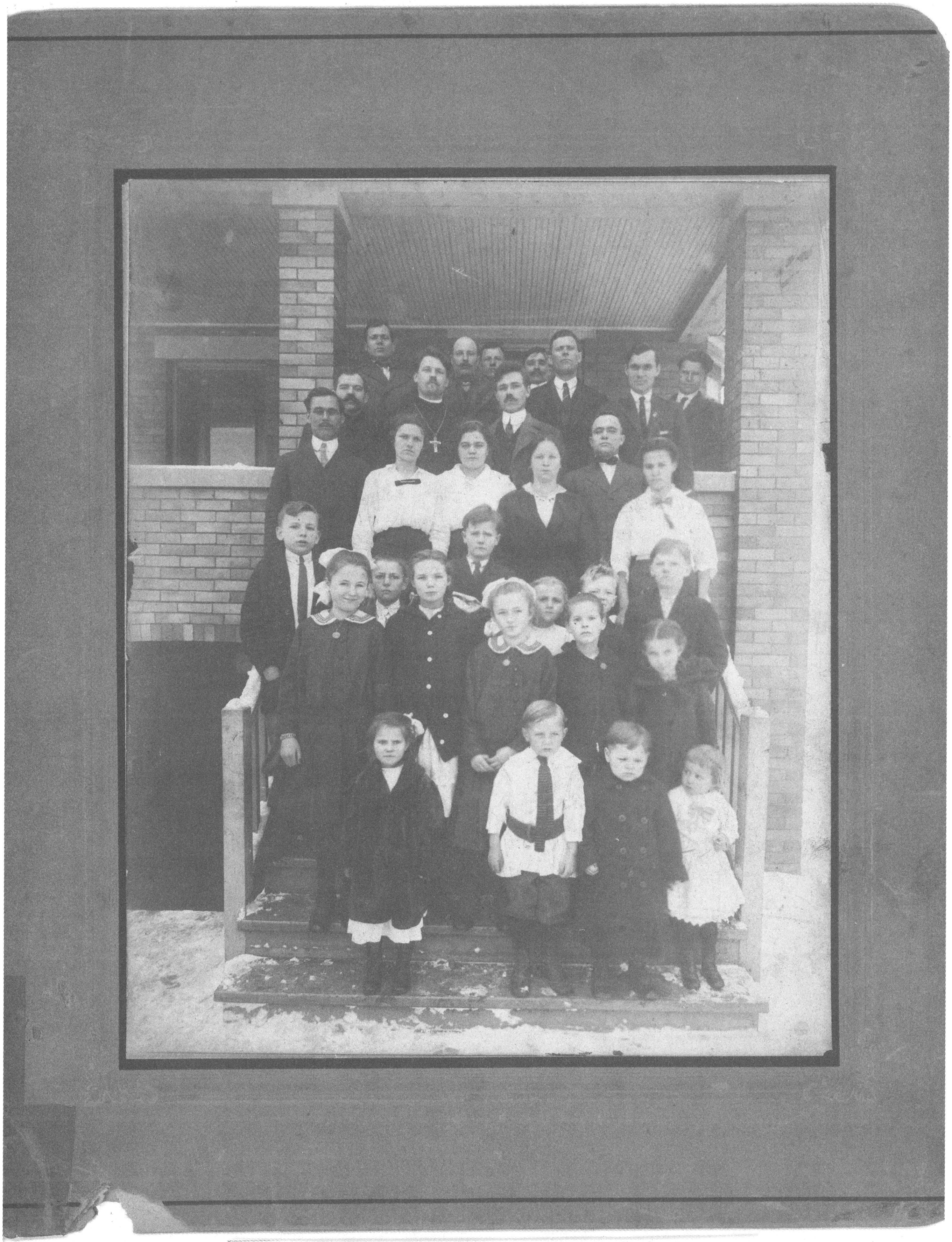

ПЕРВОНАЧАЛЬНЫЙ ВИДЪ ЦЕРКВИ И ИКОНОСТАСА.

Temporary iconostas – St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church 17th & Fillmore Street – Gary, Indiana

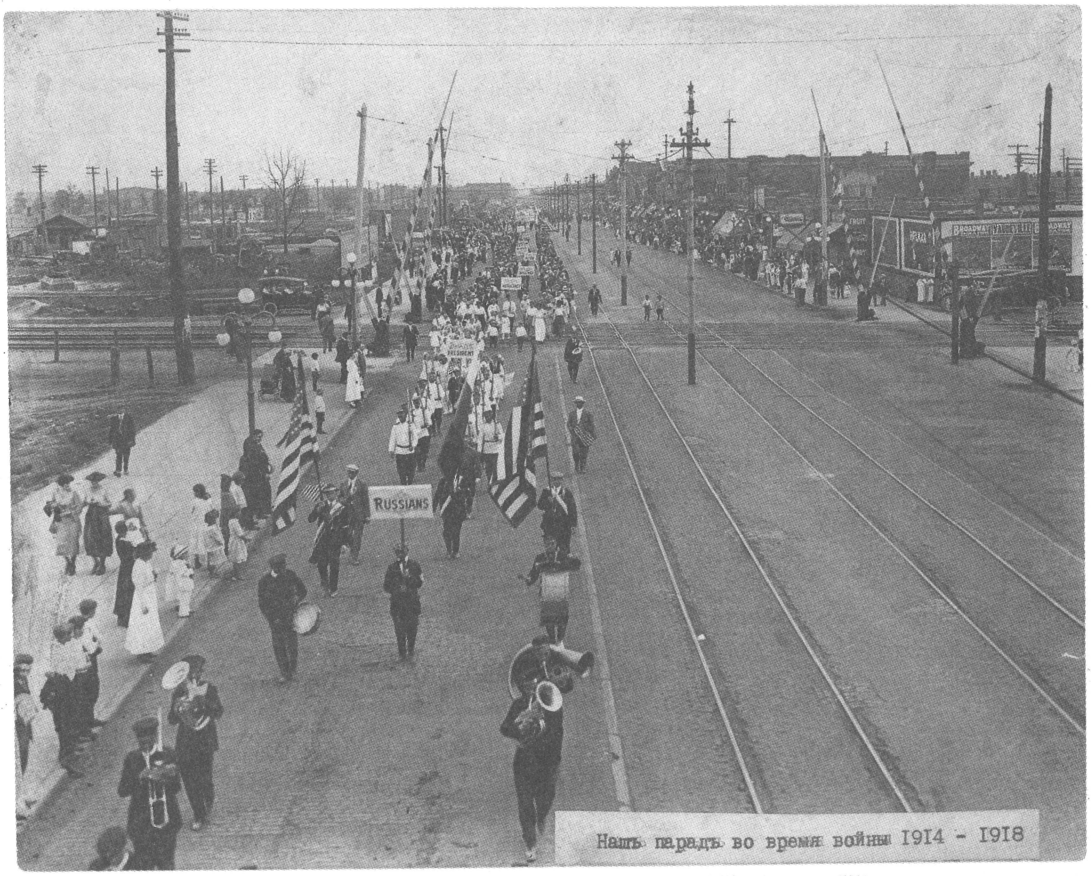

WE ARE WITH THE ALLIES
RUSSIA
WE ARE FOR DEMOCRACY
RUSSIANS
RUSSIA
DEMOCRACY
PRESIDENT
UNITED STAND
FALL
RUSSIANS
RUSSIA

St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church – 17th & Fillmore Street, Gary, Indiana during World War I 1918 – 1918

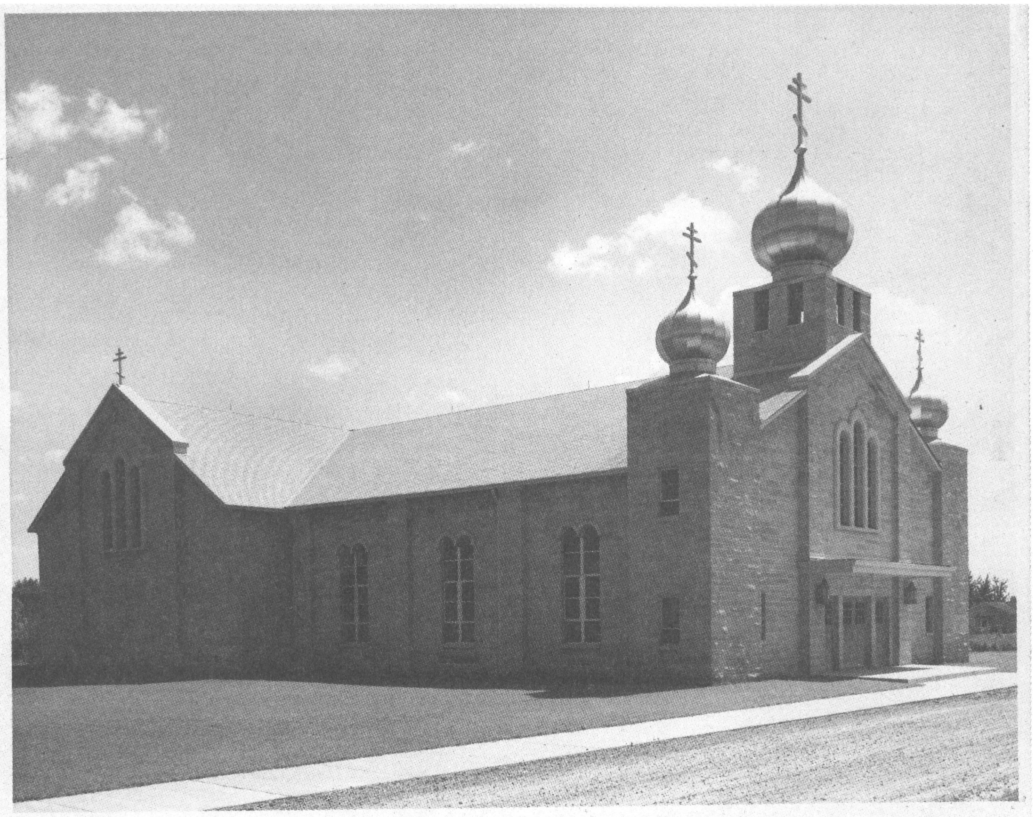
Consecration of the 45th Avenue Church - 1960



St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church Choir with Fr. Benjamin Kedrovsky and Choir Director, Nicholas Huminsky at the Rectory Steps – 17th & Fillmore Street, Gary, Indiana 1915

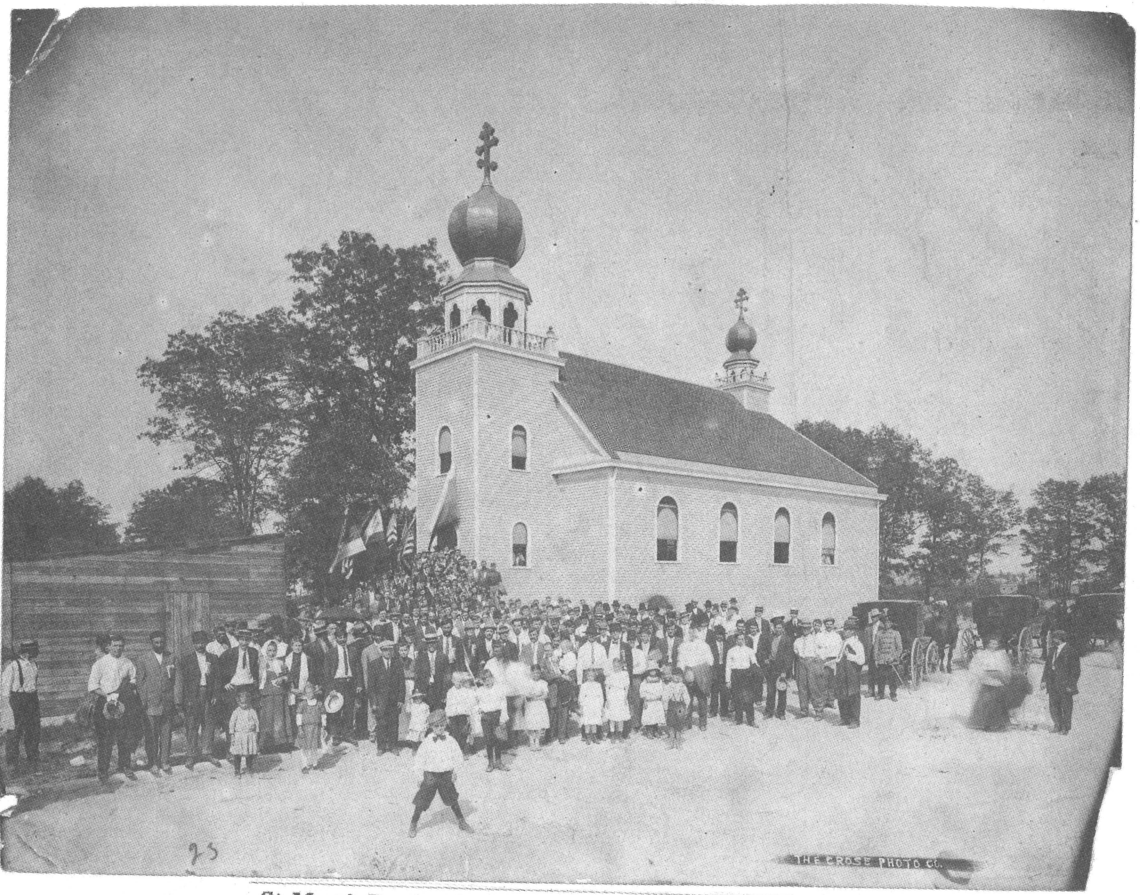

RUSSIANS
BROADWAY
Нашъ парадъ во время войны 1914 - 1918

St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church Band in World War I Parade on Broadway - Gary, Indiana 1914-1918

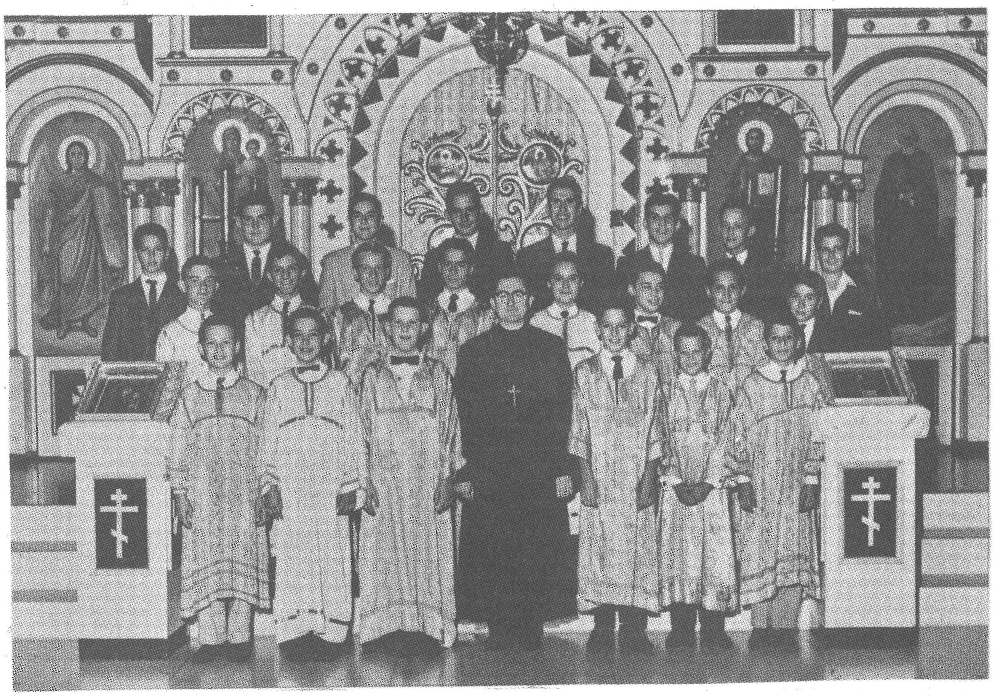


St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church built of Indiana limestone in 1959 - 45th and Maryland Street, Gary, Indiana

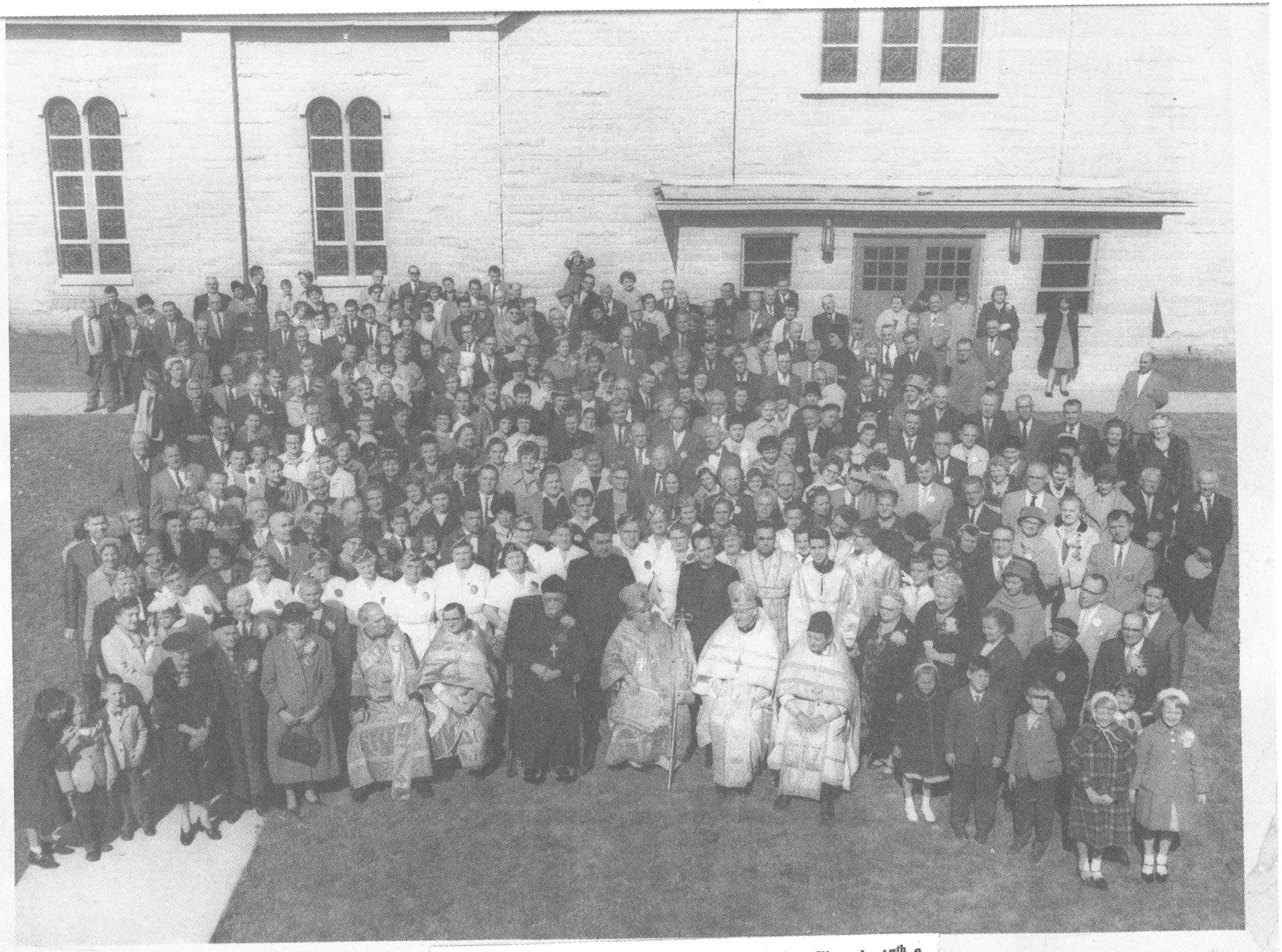
Father Blagoy Topuzliev and other Clergy at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church – 8600 Grand Blvd., Merrillville, Indiana



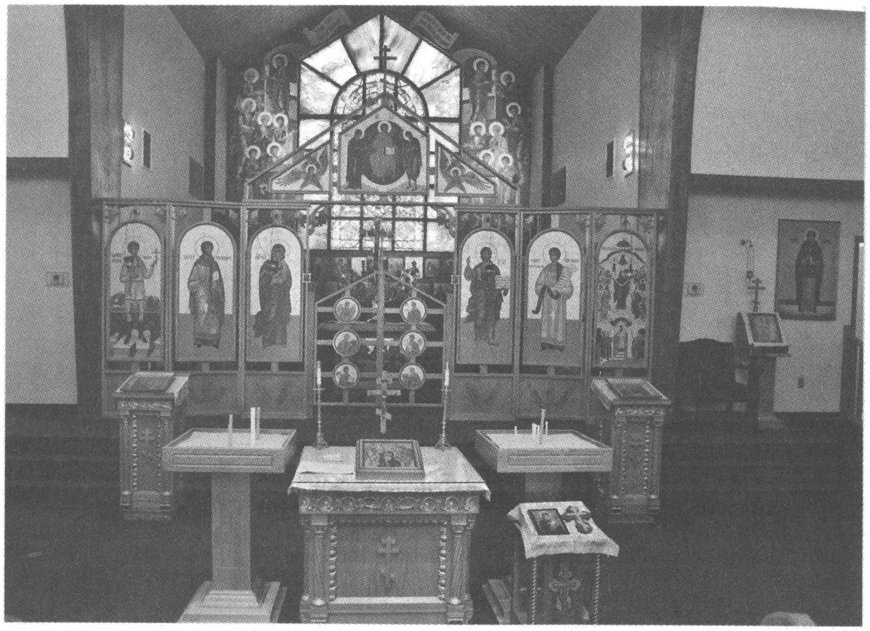
St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church built in 1912 - 17th & Fillmore Street, Gary, Indiana



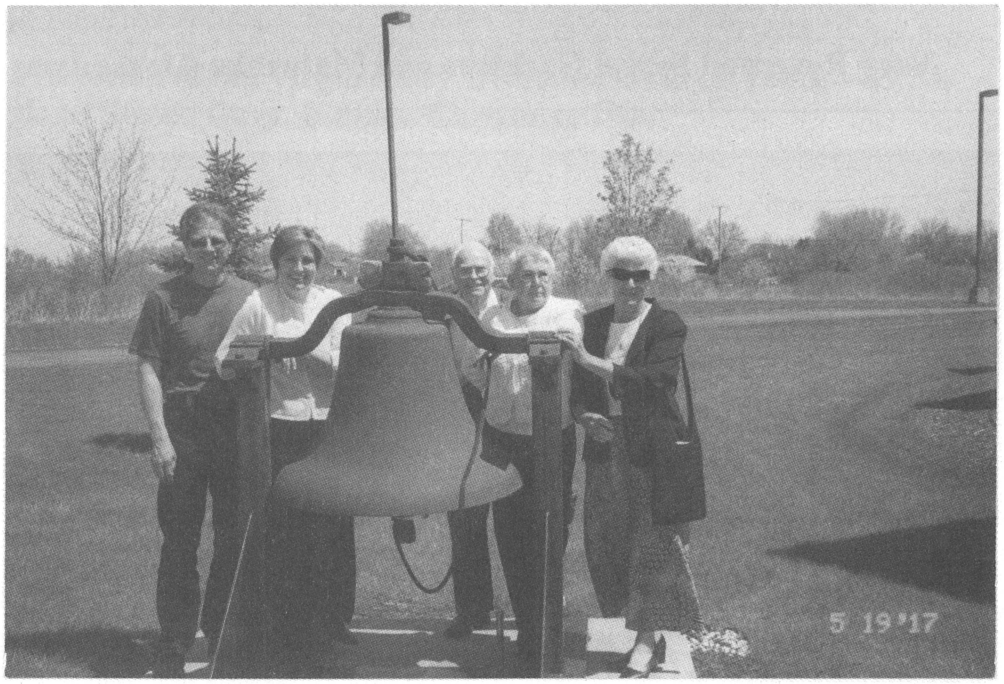
Father Peter Rozdelsky with alter servers at St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church – 45th & Maryland Street, Gary, Indiana 1961



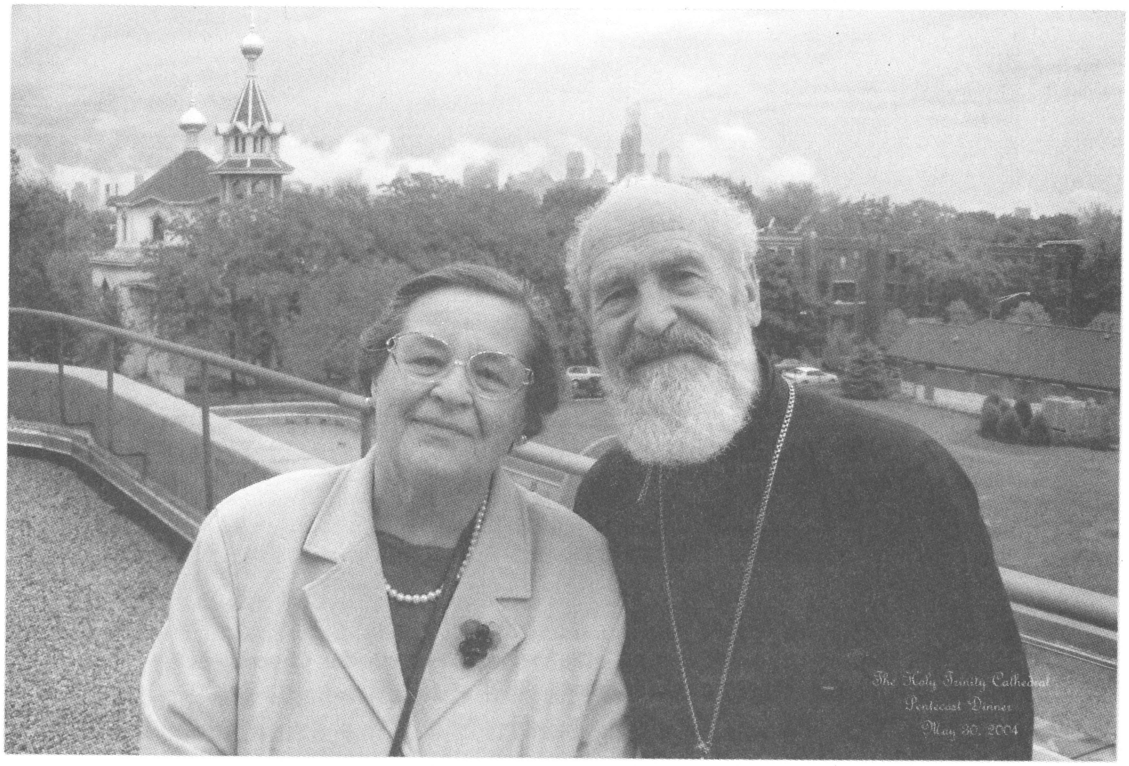
Patron Saint Day, St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church, 45th & Maryland Street, Gary, Indiana 1961



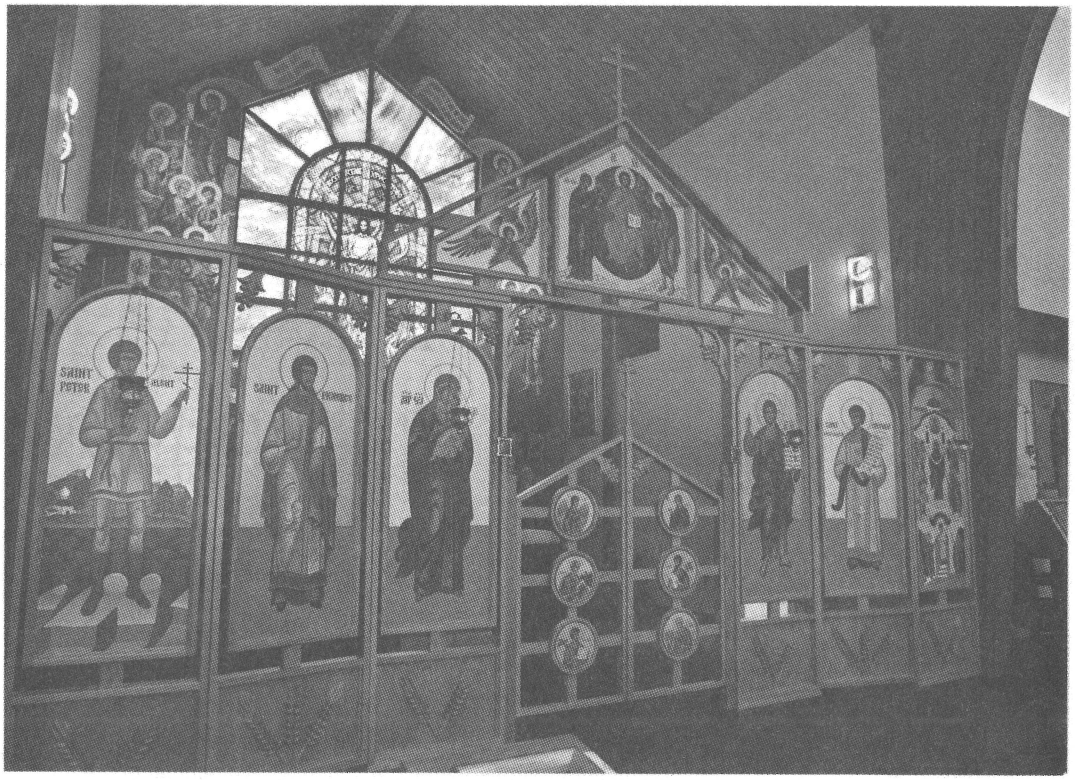
Iconostas at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church – 8600 Grand Blvd., Merrillville, Indiana 2010



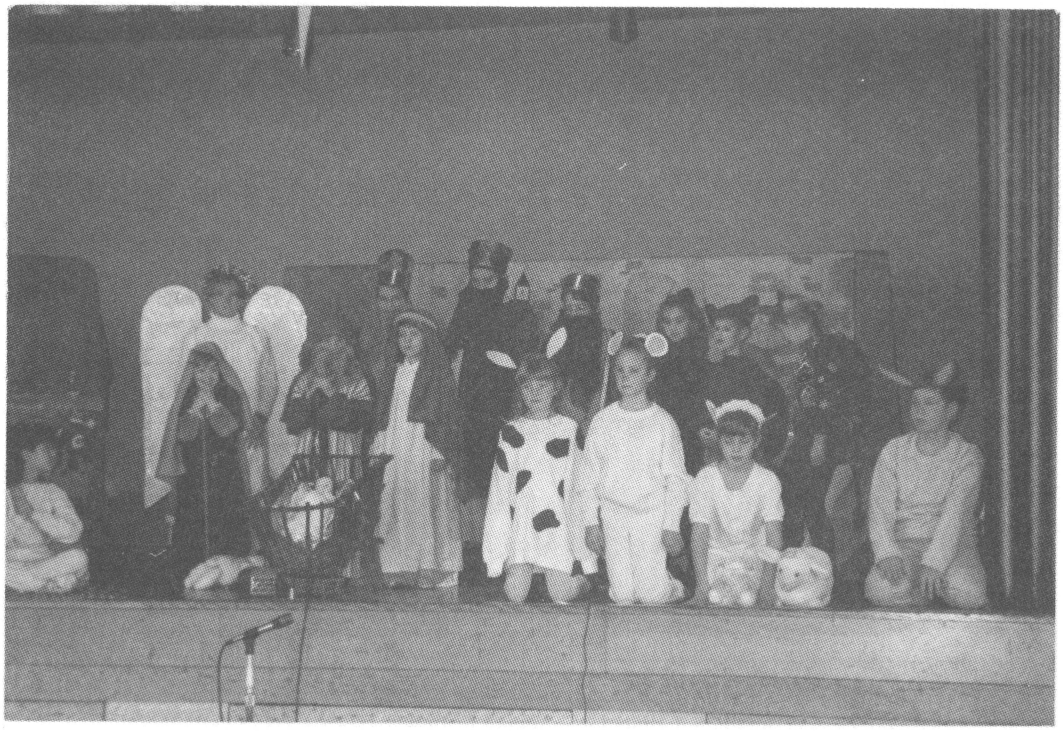
Our Tolleston Fire Station Bell – acquired in 1912, outside of the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church, 8600 Grand Blvd., Merrillville, Indiana with Church Council President, Nick Korzow, Church Council Vice President, Sheila Reibly, Church Historian, Michael Shendrick, and parishoners Olga Martin and Olga Atzhorn 2010


The Holy Trinity Cathedral
Pentecost Dinner
May 30, 2004

Very Reverend Sergei Garklavs and Matushka Alexandria

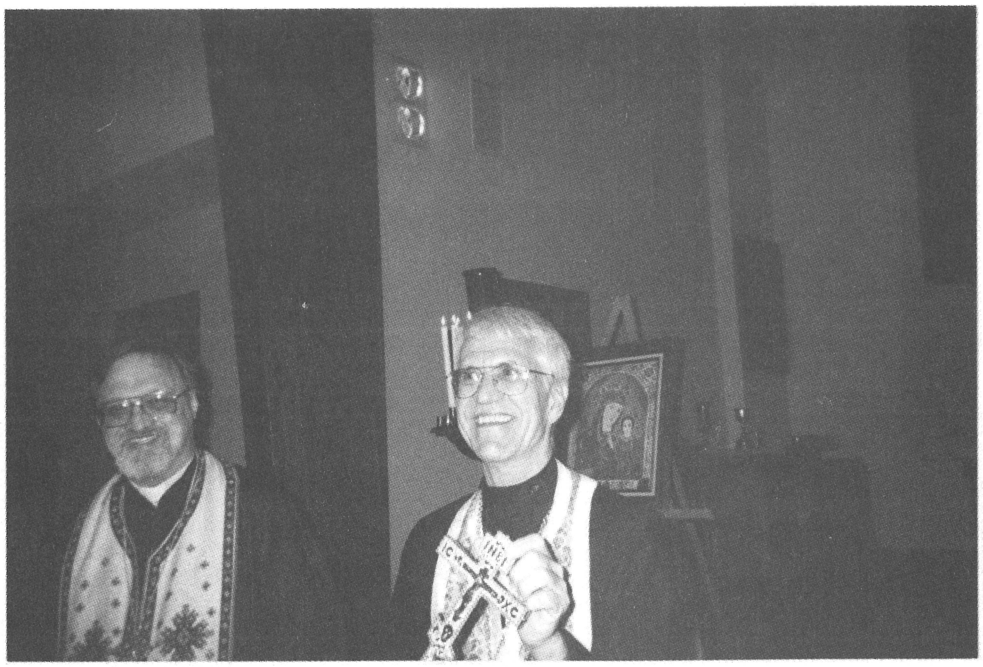

SAINT PETER ALEUT
SAINT

Iconostas at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church – 8600 Grand Blvd., Merrillville, Indiana

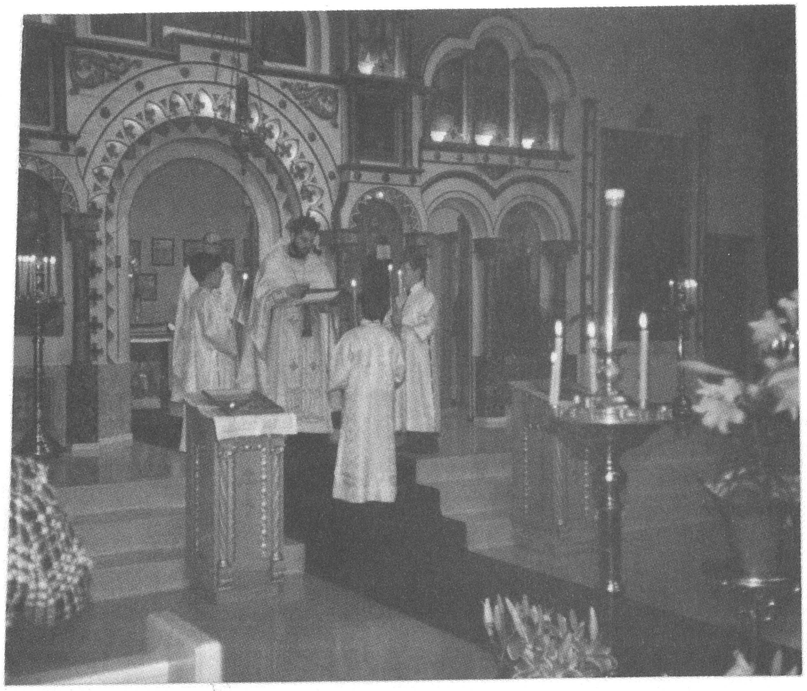


The Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church Yolka – 45th & Maryland Street, Gary, Indiana Christmas 1994

Bishop Job, Father Gregory Norris, Father George Havrila and other clergy members at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church – 8600 Grand Blvd., Merrillville, Indiana



Father Peter Bodnar and Fr. Theodore Panchak at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church – 8600 Grand Blvd., Merrillville, Indiana



Father William Bass with altar servers at the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church - 45th & Maryland St., Gary, Indiana - Pascha 1994

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"Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness" **Matthew 6:33**

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Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

September 30, 2011

Greetings!

It is a pleasure to offer my congratulations on the 100th Anniversary of the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church.

Your congregation has been filled with strong voices of faith and has given new life to countless individuals by reaching out to all people through word and deed. Your ministry provides hope and encouragement for a better life and future. You are an integral part of the richness of our country's spirit and the glory of our achievements to bear witness and serve God as we live in this great nation of freedom.

Thank you for your faithful service to your fellow Hoosiers. May you continue to serve to extend your mission of ministry for many years to come.

Best wishes as you gather in fellowship to celebrate this landmark occasion in the life of your church.

Sincerely,

Mitch Daniels

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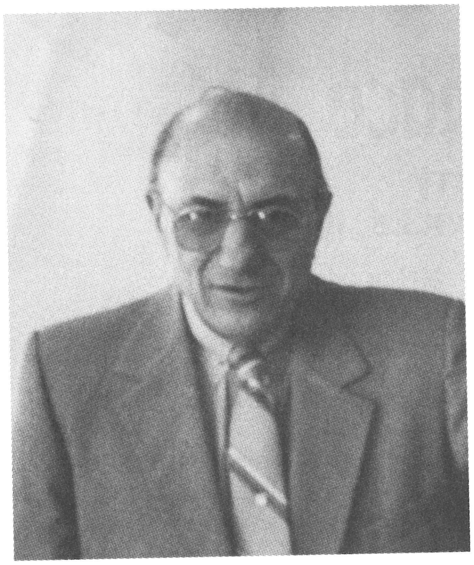

Eli Shocaroff

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Chief of Police - Hobart, IN

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Vanna, Janet, Peter,
Kristine, & Kaitlin Shocaroff

In memory of my parents,
early members of our church

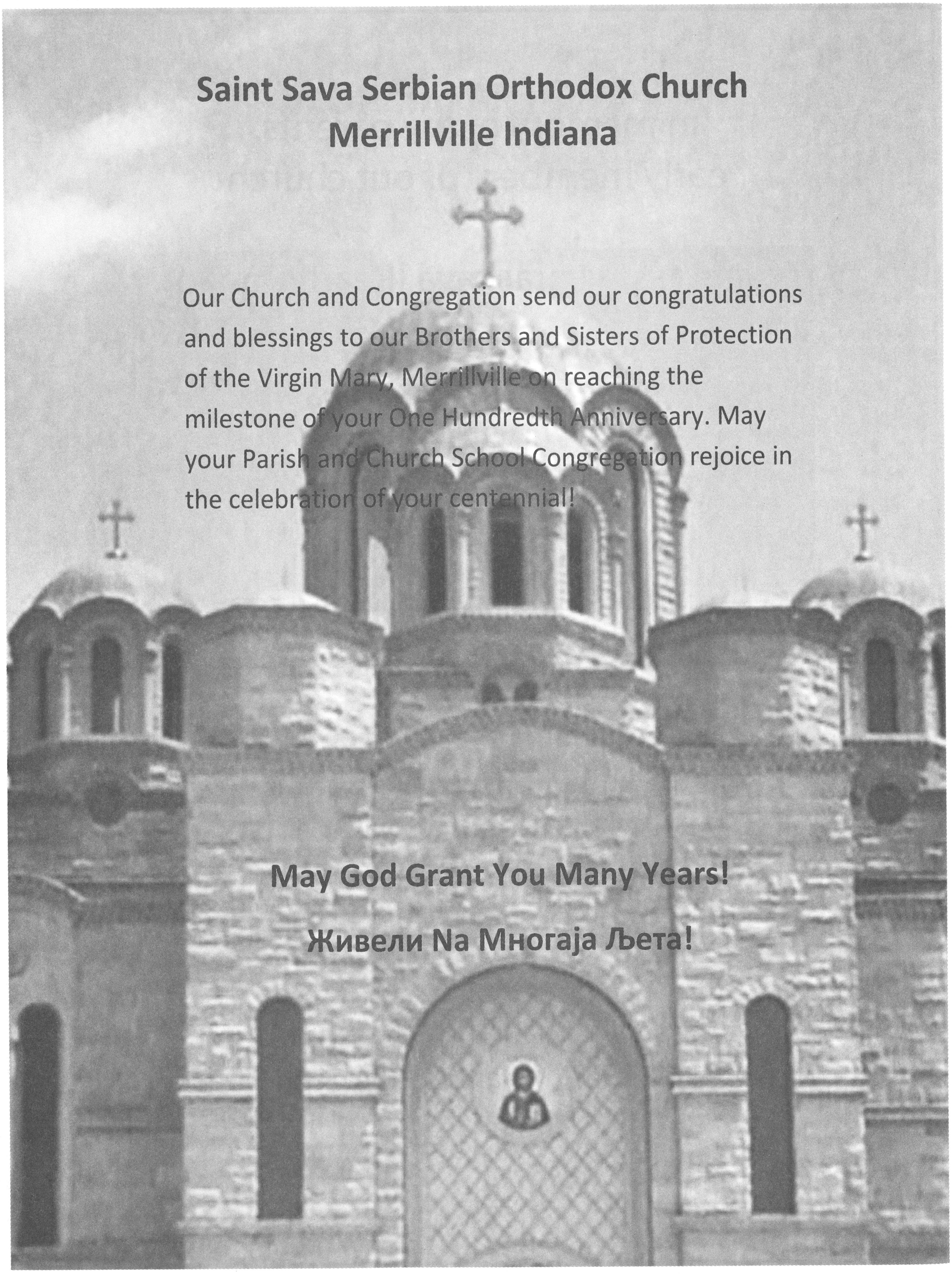
Nicholas & Paraskeva (Pearl) Danko

Offered by Nick Danko

Congratulations to our parish
on its 100th Anniversary

Nick & Eileen Danko

Nicholas III, Michael, Miriam, Matthew and Elizabeth



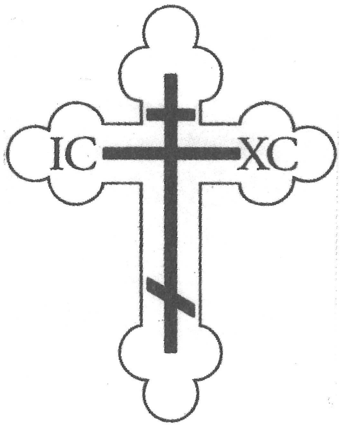
Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church
Merrillville Indiana

Our Church and Congregation send our congratulations and blessings to our Brothers and Sisters of Protection of the Virgin Mary, Merrillville on reaching the milestone of your One Hundredth Anniversary. May your Parish and Church School Congregation rejoice in the celebration of your centennial!

May God Grant You Many Years!

Живели Na Многаја Љета!

In Loving Memory of Aunt Marge Stodola



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Liz, Miles, Paul, Juliana, Theresa and David

Blessings for the 100th Anniversary

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Anna Pronze, and late Robert

Paul & Cindi Pronze and Family

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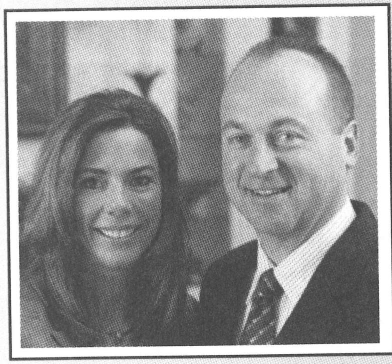

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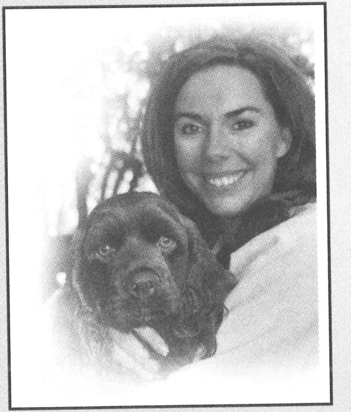

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of

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In Loving Memory
Of My Mother & Father

Walter & Tatiana Adamczyk

And My Grandparents

Very Rev. Policarp & Matushka Tatiana Chernyavsky

Offered By

Gene Adamczyk

Congratulations on the
Parish's 100th Anniversary
with special appreciation
for the generations of
faithful members who made this all
possible.

Marilyn L. Hrischuk
Marta Hrischuk Onofrey
Barbara Hrischuk Roberts

In Loving Memory of

Edward Hrischuk
Nick & Anna Hrischuk

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In Loving Memory of
John N. and Mary
Schevtchuk

Daughter Irene
and grandchildren

Congratulations

on your 100th Anniversary celebration and sincere wishes for your spiritual existence and happy life for many more years.

Fr. George & Mat. Anna Havrila
and family

Who is so great a God as our God?
To Him be all the glory, forever!

Protection of the Virgin Mary Bookstore

In Loving Memory of:

Father Thomas H.D. Brown
Natalie and Michael Eskoff
Infant Alexander Eskoff
Efrozenia & Alexander Wozniak
Xenia & George Eskoff
Ethel Belle Gibson
Dr. Michael T. Irvin

May God grant them rest in the land of the living,
and open to them the gates of paradise.

Offered lovingly by
Matushka Nadine E. Brown

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Congratulations and
Many Years to our Parish
on its 100th Anniversary

Paul & Anne Sikora

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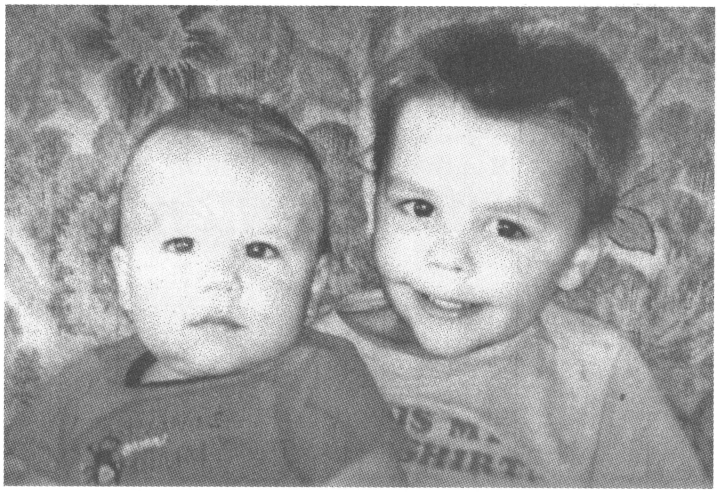

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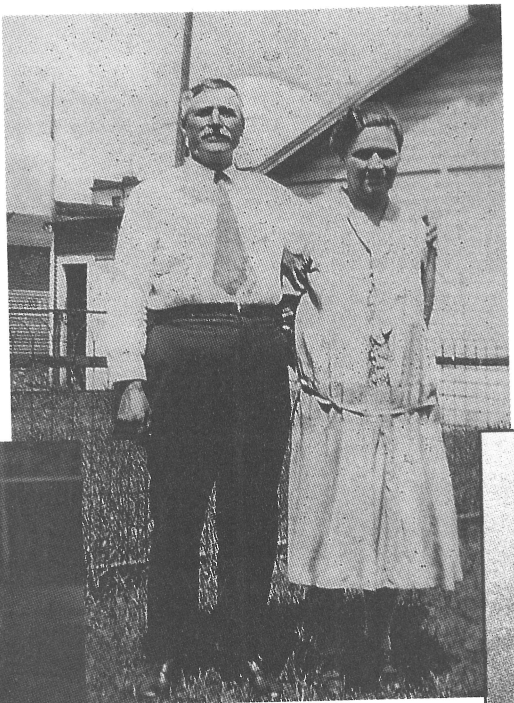

Peter Brilla

Nick Brilla

l. to r. Pauline Czarnecki, Elizabeth Kane, Olga Piwiski, Helen Diachuk, Anna Dewenetz, Mary Misynuk

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Thank You Lord
for the hundred years of
Your blessings on us.

Keep us under Your wing forever.

God bless us and
all Orthodox Christians forever.

Marieka Thomsen
Halyna Meuch

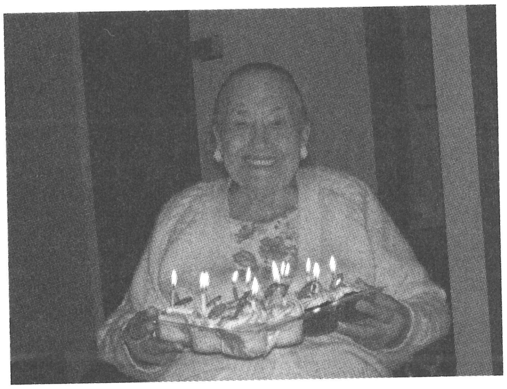
Happy 100th Anniversary St. Mary's

from your oldest living member:
Mary Danchi

I praise God for 95 years of life. I have 3 children, 16 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. I have many wonderful memories of St. Mary's, the Choir, and Sodality. I leave you with this scripture from John 3:16.

"God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him will have everlasting life."

God Bless You!



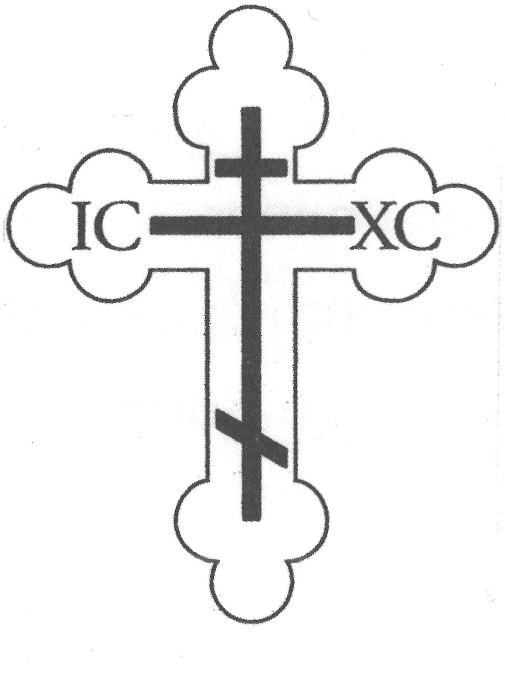
Best Wishes on the celebration
of the 100th Anniversary and
Memory Eternal

H. Anthony Newman

Offered by the Newman Family

Alexandra, Alexa,
Mark and Tracy,
Allison and Peyton

A special thanks goes to the Chairman of the 100th Anniversary Committee, Nick Rozdelsky, the Church Historian, Michael Shendrick, and the Editor of the 100th Anniversary Book, Matthew McMullan along with members of the 100th Anniversary Committee: Olga Atzhorn, Janice Barancyk, Mary Ann Bertram, Father Peter Bodnar, Matushka Cynthia Bodnar, Matushka Nadine Brown, Helen Campbell, Elizabeth Glagola, Carol Kane, Esther Kay, Monika Kostron, Nick Korzow, Olga Martin, Valerie McMullan, Alexandra Newman, Sheila Reibly, Laura Rosenberg, Scott Rosenberg, Father Christopher Sarafin, Matushka Cheryl Sarafin, and Michael Shendrick.



May the Lord God
remember you,
dear mamochka,
in His Kingdom always.

In memory of Anna Likar
1936 - 2008

from her children

The Choir of the
Protection of the Virgin Mary
Orthodox Church praises
God for blessing us with
100 years of continuous worship!

We wish to continue to sing
with the unity of hearts and minds,
drawing us harmoniously together into one voice.
For ultimately, it is Christ, who is our song!

Congratulations St. Mary's
God Grant You Many Years
In
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of
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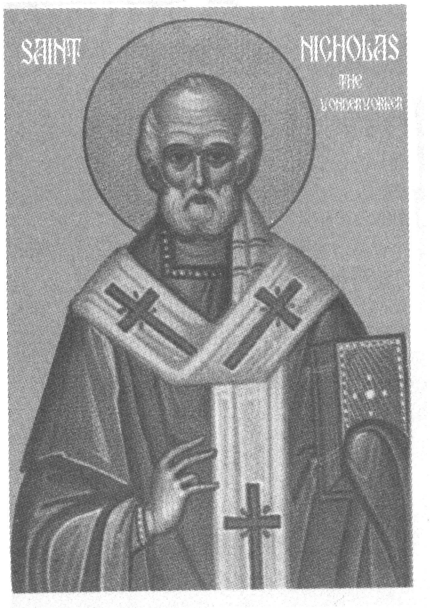
Our Father, Who are in Heaven.
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on
earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day
our daily bread and forgive us our
trespasses, as we forgive those who
trespass against us. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil.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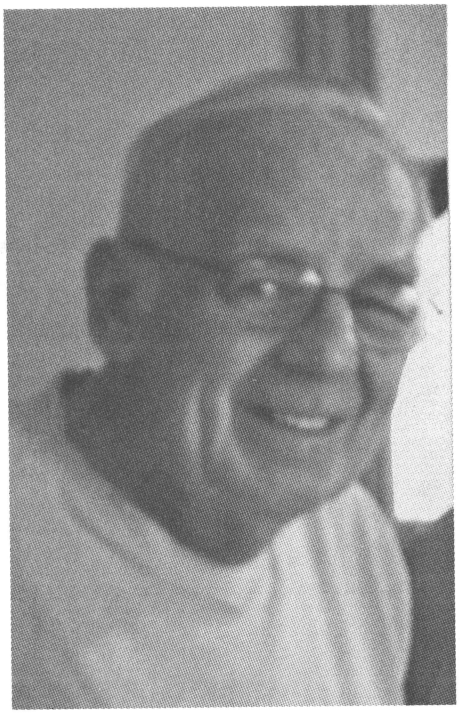
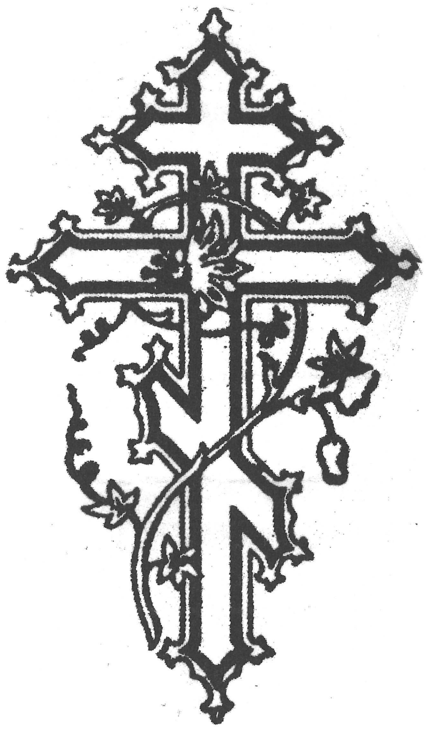


In Memory of George Glagola



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Congratulating our good friends and
brethren on

100 years of faithfulness!

☦

"Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is*
For brethren to dwell together in unity!

It is like the precious oil upon the head,
Running down on the beard,
The beard of Aaron,
Running down on the edge of his garments.
It is like the dew of Hermon,
Descending upon the mountains of Zion;
For there the LORD commanded the blessing—
Life forevermore."

May God grant you many, many more!

Brian & Victoria Van Sickle

From this day forth,
from this hour forth,
from this minute -
Let us love God above all
-St. Herman of Alaska

In Loving Memory of

Nancy's Parents: Tichon & Elena Saliwonczyk
Nancy's two brothers: John Saliwonczyk &
Stanley Saliwonczyk and
and Nancy's sister: Lyda Saliwonczyk

And

Mike's Parents: Mike & Martha Pachapa
Mike's Brother: Victor Pachapa
Mike's Sister: Martha Pachapa

Given by Nancy & Mike Pachapa

In Loving Memory

Kenneth Shaffer

Memory Eternal
Anne Shaffer and Family

This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Today we join you on the joyous celebration of the
Golden Jubilee of St. Mary's Orthodox Church.
For 100 years you have been under
the protection of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary.

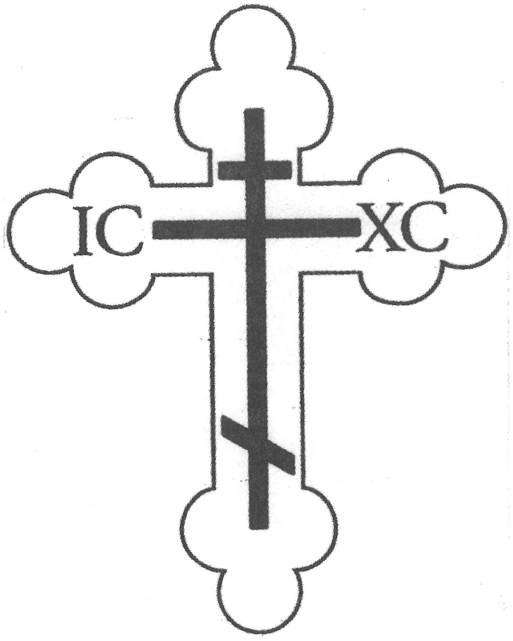
Through Her prayers,
may the Lord God bless you
with many more blessings for years to come!

With love,
Archpriest Sergei Garklavs and family

In Memory of
Our First Church's Pioneers
Julian* & Antonina* (Huminsky) Leskow

by children:
Olive & Sonia*
Nicholas* & Anna* (Kolometz) Humisky

by son:
Peter* & Mary* (Boznak) Huminsky



My soul finds rest in God alone:
My salvation comes from Him.
Psalms 62:1

In Beloved Memory of
Sophie & Nicholas Korzow
Offered by
Nick, Janet
Kristine, Stephen
Carol, Karl, Chris

For the Eternal Memory
and Blessed Repose
of the Souls of the Servants of God

The Right Rev. Benjamin Kedrovsky
and
Matushka Julia Kedrovsky

George and Helen (Muntean) Kedrovsky

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Memory Eternal! Vechnaya Pamyat!

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May God continue to bless
and guide your church.

In Christ,
Uncle Joe, Dianne Bodnar and sons

I rejoiced when they said to me,
"We will go to the house of the Lord."
Psalm 121 (122)

ARRET
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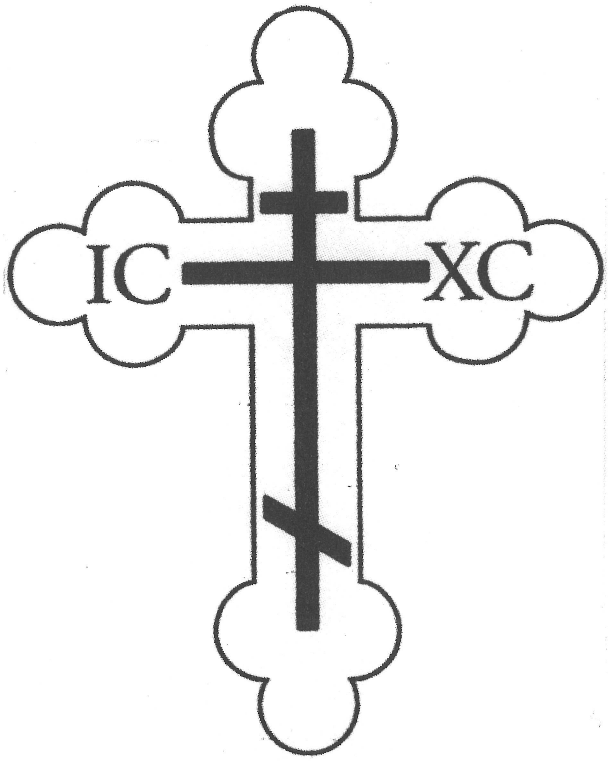
Many More Years!

Edward Peter Federinko
Ray George Baker

Memory Eternal
Bob & Ann Tokash
and
Fedora & Andrew Borisenko

May God Grant St. Mary's Many Happy and Blessed Years!

Lori, Mark, Annie & Katie Dugan
Father David, Pani Andrea, Jacob and Sara Cochran



In Blessed Memory

Philip and Helen Diachuk

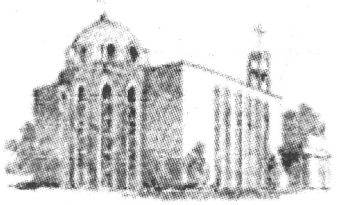
Philip, David, Nicholai

by loving daughters

MaryAnn Behnke

Olga Atzhorn

Helen Campbell



"We keep in mind that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever"
Hebrews 13:8

May all the faithful and friends gather together in joy to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of your Orthodox Community.

We pray you continue your good works by allowing God to work through you in offering yourselves as the future of hope in the next 100 years as a dedicated community in worship and service to the Universal Church.
Many Year!

In fellowship and love,
The Descent of the Holy Ghost Orthodox Church
and
Sts. Constantine & Elena Ladies Auxiliary
750 W 61st Avenue, Merrillville, Indiana
www.descentoftheholyghost.org

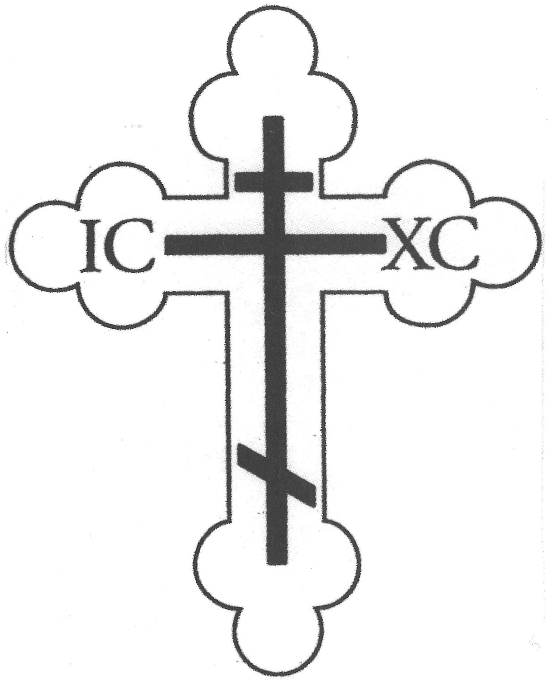
Veronica and Bronco
Ponzo

Anastasia and Michael
Pilenak

On the 100th Anniversary of St. Mary's Church we wish to honor our parents and grandparents who were longtime members of the church. Memory Eternal.

Elaine and John DeVaney, Sr.
Angie and John DeVaney, Jr.

"This is the day which the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it."
Psalm 118:24



Best Wishes from the
Hughes
Abila
and
Richards
Families

Congratulations to our church on the 100th Anniversary

1911 IC XC 2011

May God Grant Many More Years

Memory eternal to founders William & Mary Krochta & Daniel Krochta by members Mary Drozda and Olga Shinovich (Pioneers) and Joyce Krochta, William Drozda, Valerie McMullan, Matthew McMullan, Mary McMullan, Mary Fuller, Erin Fuller and Matthew Fuller

William and Mary Krochta
September 19. 1909
New York City

The Malovances

Gregory, Lisa, Nona, Dave

Rachel, Ryan, Adam, Andrew

Vera

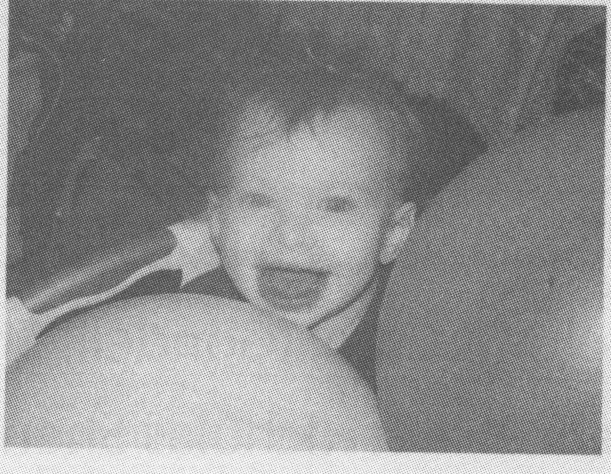
IN MEMORY OF

Zinaida and Aleksander Niedbajlik

Maria Yeager

IN MEMORY OF MY GRAMPA

GARY L MARTIN



LOVE: AIDAN LAWE LUSKEY

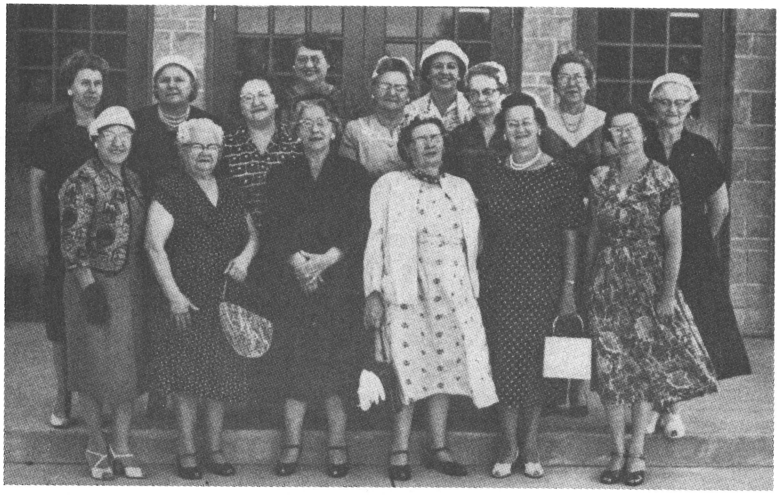
In Memory of
Our First Church's Parishioners

Michael N. & Agripina Shendrick
Stefan F. & Pelagea Gnetzewech
Steve & Love Nezovich

Remembering Their Active Participation
By Descendants

Michael Sr. & Nancy (Nezovich) Shendrick
Michael Jr. & Carol (Gondell) Shendrick
Michael III & Nicholas Shendrick

Sodality
1961

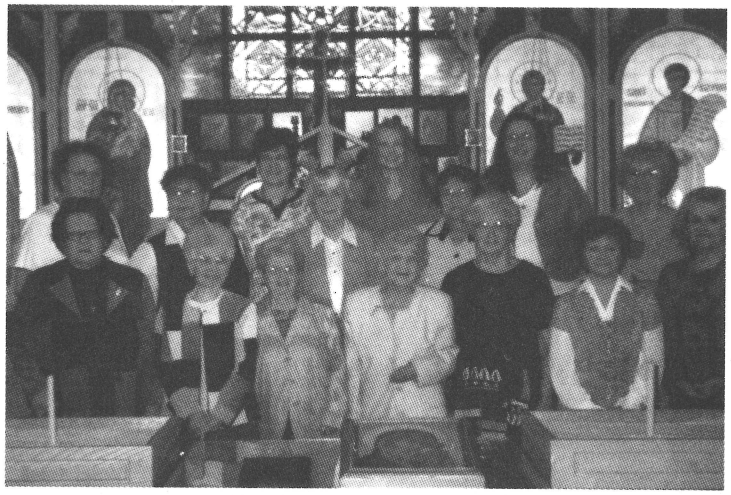


Front row: Helen Diachuk-Orenich, Matushka Julia Kedrovsky, Olga Kiwak, Olga Snarsky, Mary Swalla, Pauline Radivan.

Back row: Veronica Ponzo, Mary Misyuk, Matushka Ann Rozdelsky, Sophie Kutsko, Anna Romanow, Sophie Korzow, Anna Birosh, Mary Sovich, Christina Sargovetz.

Not pictured: Helen Stupar, Ann Komanecki, Violet Kiwak, Anastasia Shendrick, Margaret Lash, Madge Panchak, Agripina Shendrick, Sophie Skirpan, Katherine Chervenick.

Sodality
2011



Back row: Carol Kane, Tasia Koveck, Janice Barancyk, Julianna Komenicki, Elizabeth Glagola, Helen Campbell.

Front row: Vera Malovance, Olga Puskos, Dorothy Kaletta, Helen Saporsky, Olga Atzhorn, Maryann Bertram, Eugenia Kiriluk.

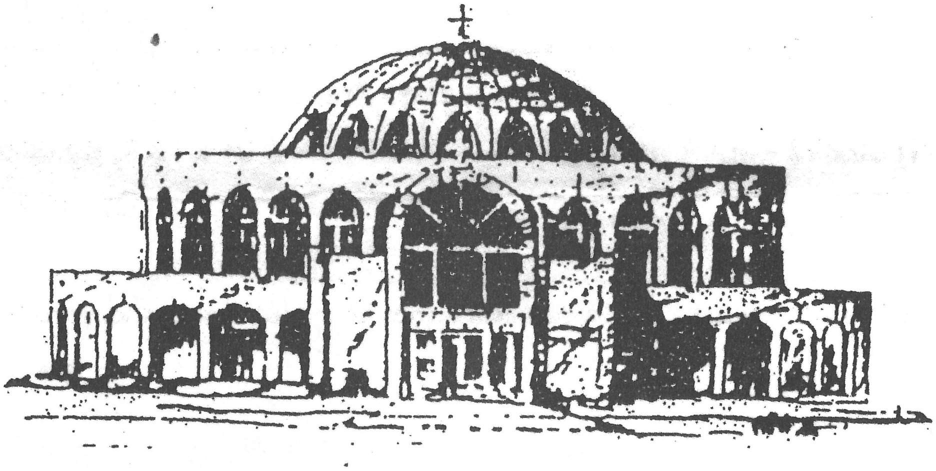
Not pictured: Alexandra Newman, Ann Sikora, Nancy Shendrick, Vanna Schocaroff, Nadia Konawalik, Anne Vahary

Best Wishes on Your 100th Anniversary

2011 Executive Board	Name
Parish Priest	Fr. Dobrivoje Milunovic
President	Ray Vukas
1st Vice President	Milan Momcilovich
2nd Vice President	Mara Dobrijevic
Treasurer	Mike Radjenovich
Financial Secretary	Jason Vukas
Secretary	Dane Dukich

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
905 E. Joliet
Schererville, IN 46375

"My house shall be called a house of prayer for all people"
(Isaiah 56:7)



May Our Lord Jesus Christ bless your parish
with continuous progress and growth
as you celebrate your 100th Anniversary.

Congratulations!

✠Fr. Theodore Poteres **✠Fr. Evagoras Constantinides**

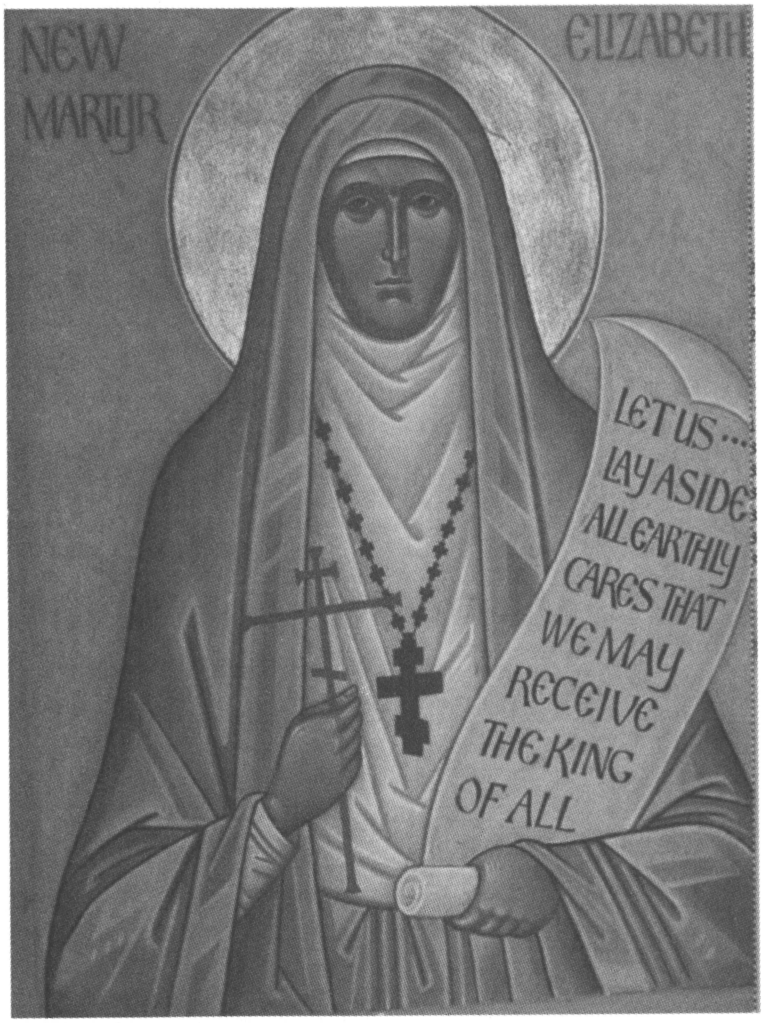
And the entire community of
Ss. Constantine and Helen
Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Merrillville, Indiana

Thy noble rank hidden
in humility,
O Elizabeth,
wise in God,
With the two-fold
service of Martha and
Mary didst thou
honor Christ.
Having purified thyself
with mercy,
patience and love like
a righteous sacrifice
thou didst offer thyself
to God.
Therefore, honoring
thy life of good works
and suffering as that of
a true guide,
We fervently beg of
thee:
Holy Martyr and
Grand Duchess
Elizabeth,
Pray to Christ our God
to save and
enlighten our souls.
Troparian

To the clergy & faithful of The Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church,

We wish you all the best of God's goodness on this celebration of your parish's 100th Anniversary!

From the clergy & faithful at
St Elizabeth Orthodox Church


NEW MARTYR
ELIZABETH
LET US... LAY ASIDE ALL EARTHLY CARES THAT WE MAY RECEIVE THE KING OF ALL

St. Elizabeth the New Martyr Orthodox Church

545 West Indiana Ave Chesterton, IN 46304
V Rev William Bass, Rector 438 S 3rd St Chesterton, IN 46304
home /church phone: 219-926-4358

In Loving Memory

of

Andrew and Anna Svihra

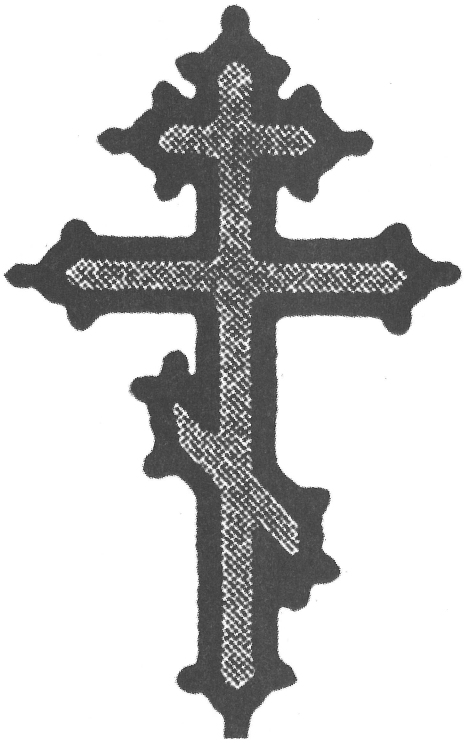
By

Andrew and Leondra

Martin and Joni

Richard and Linda

In Loving Memory of the families of

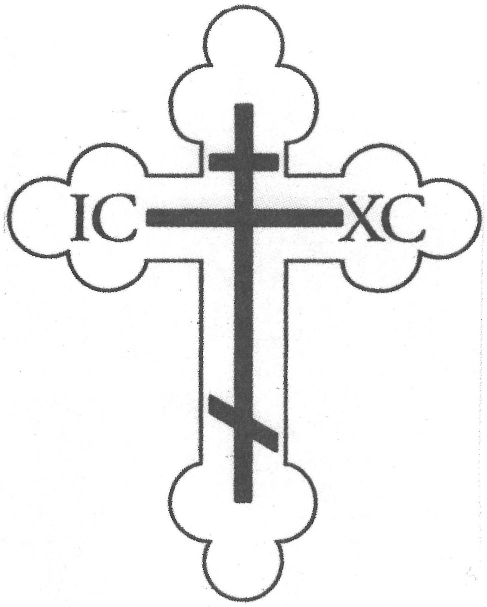


William and Mary
Krochta

Peter and Anna
Romanyak

In Loving Memory of

Feodor
&
Pelagea
Pustik

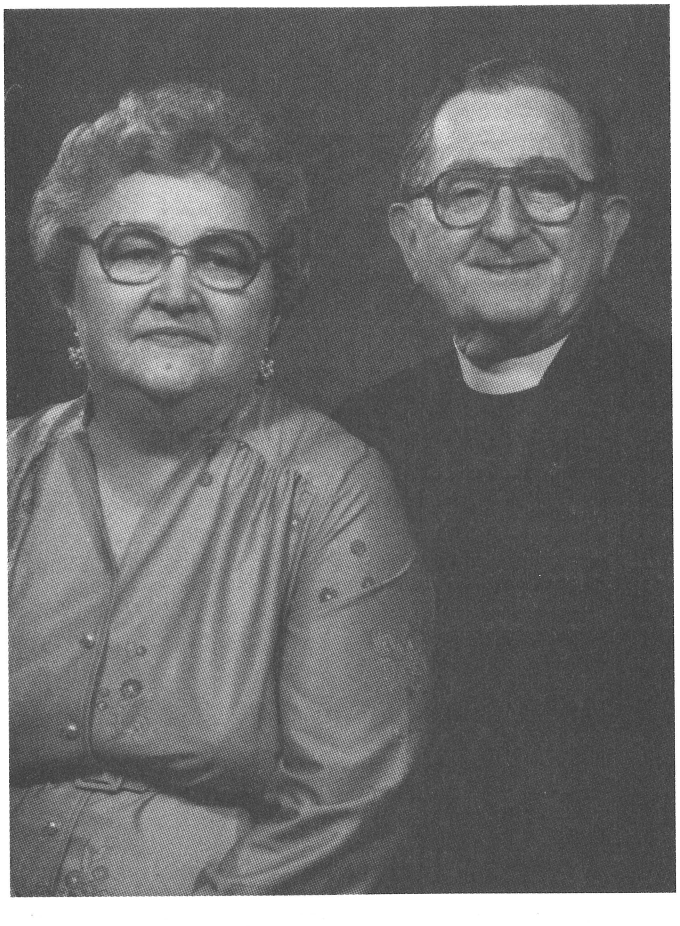


Gregory
&
Olga
Kissel

John & Nettie
Pustik
Hartina Melnikow
Mary Kuzma

by
Ivan Pustik
Linda Pustik-Lindsey

In Loving Memory of Our Parents



Matushka Ann & Father Peter Rozdelsky
1961 - 1986
Years of Service at St. Mary's
Offered By
Rosalie, Maryann, & Nick

Salvation belongs to the Lord.

Your blessing is upon Your people.

Ps. 8:12

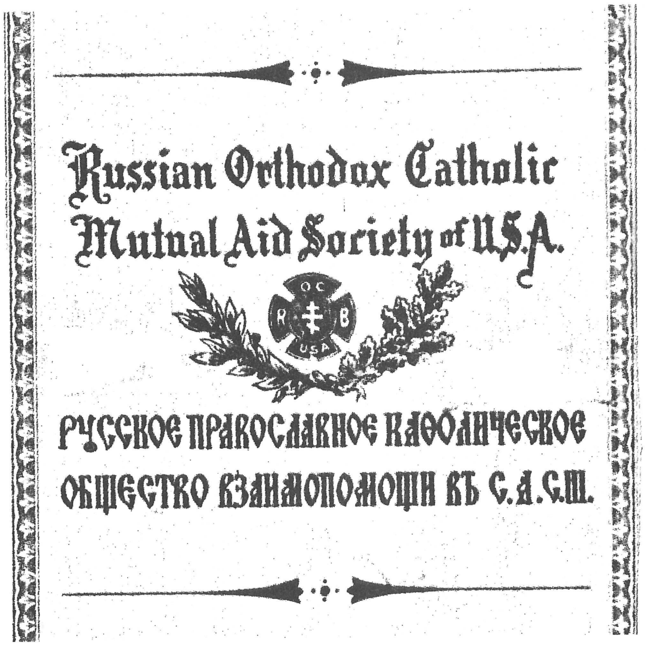
Lovingly in Christ,

Fr. Peter, Cynthia, Theodore, Phillip,

Lileah (Mark, Cole & Bryce),

Gabriel (Aimee, Liam)

St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Brotherhood
Lodge No. 198
started in November 1911, now inactive


Russian Orthodox Catholic
Mutual Aid Society of U.S.A.

РУССКОЕ ПРАВОСЛАВНОЕ КАѲОЛИЧЕСКОЕ
ОБЩЕСТВО ВЗАИМОПОМОЩИ ВЪ С.А.С.Ш.

First among the four brotherhoods and one sisterhood serving our parish and its members

In honor of the servants of God, Great Grandfather and Great Grandmother Peter and Mary Brilla, Grandfather and Grandmother Philip and Helen Diachuk, Grandfather Joseph Orenich, Godmother Olga Atzhorn, and beloved Parents Leroy and Helen Campbell, Brothers Philip and Kelly (Nicholas), Sisters Cathy (Mary) and Julie (Anne).

In honor of the servants of God, my radiant wife Irina Vladimirovna and my wonderful son Vasily Pavlovich.

Grant, O Lord, a prosperous and peaceful life, health, salvation, and furtherance in all good things unto the pious faithful of the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church in Merrillville, Indiana.

May God grant Many Years to all of the pious faithful of the many Orthodox Parishes where we have prayed as one Christian Family, united with all of the Orthodox around the world, while serving in the United States Army:

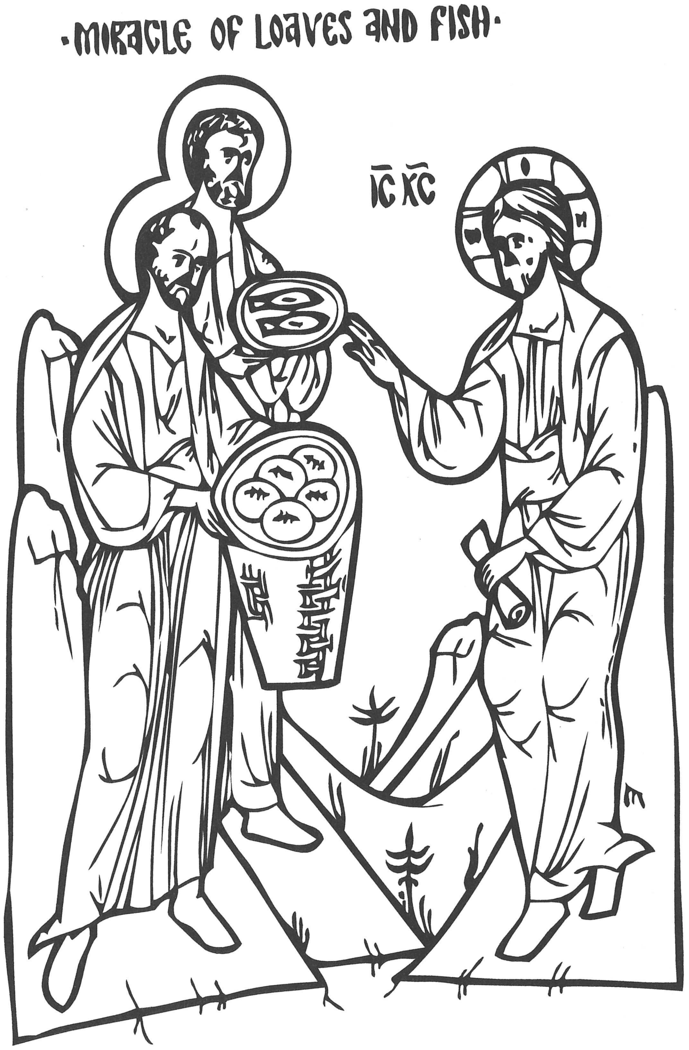
St Herman of Alaska and St Martin of Tours Orthodox Chapel at West Point, NY
St Barbara Orthodox Chapel at Ft Sill, OK
Ss. Constantine and Helen Orthodox Church in Honolulu, Hawaii
St Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church in Sunnyvale, CA
Protection of the Theotokos Orthodox Church in Palo Alto, CA
Holy Virgin Protection Orthodox Church in Nyack, NY
Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church in Pearl River, NY
St Seraphim of Sarov Orthodox Church in Spring Valley, NY
St Nicholas Orthodox Church in Frankfurt, Germany
St George Orthodox Church in El Paso, TX
St Elizabeth Orthodox Church in Weisbaden, Germany
St Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral in Stuttgart, Germany
Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia Orthodox Cathedral in Munich, Germany
St John the Baptist Orthodox Cathedral in Washington, D.C.
Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Kansas City, KS
Monastery of St Job of Pochaev in Munich, Germany
St Panteleimon Monastery and Iveron Monastery on Mount Athos, Greece
Lesna Convent in Etrepagny, France

Roy (Paul) Campbell (LTC, US Army, Retired)

Senior Army Instructor
Xavier High School JROTC Regiment of Cadets

30 West 16th Street
NY, NY 10011

School Phone: 212-924-7900 x1622
Cell Phone: 845-270-8575


·MIRACLE OF LOAVES AND FISH·
IC XC

The Senior O Club
wishes to praise
God for
blessing us with
100 years
of worship.

May God continue to bless us
as we joyfully serve our church
and those in need!

Congratulations and Many More Years
to our Parish

Offered by the PTC, the families and youth
of Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church

In Memory of
William & Martha Romanchek

William was baptized by
St. John Kochurov of Chicago

May their memory be eternal

Offered by son, William Romanchek

In Memory of
John & Mary Romanchek

Founders of St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church
also Founders of Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral - First
Russian & Orthodox Cathedral in Chicago

May their memory be eternal

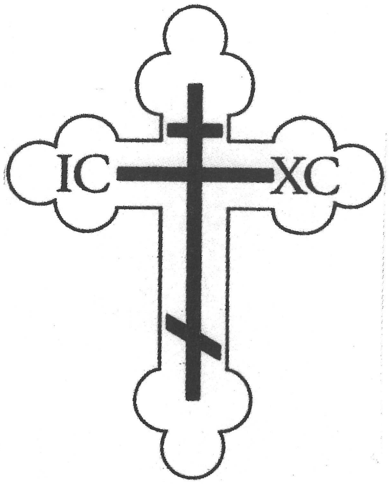
Offered by grandson, William Romanchek

Congratulations
and
Best Wishes

May God Grant St. Mary's

Many Years

Tom & Brenda Mosak



In Loving Memory

of

Walter & Leonelda Mosak

Offered by the Mosak Family

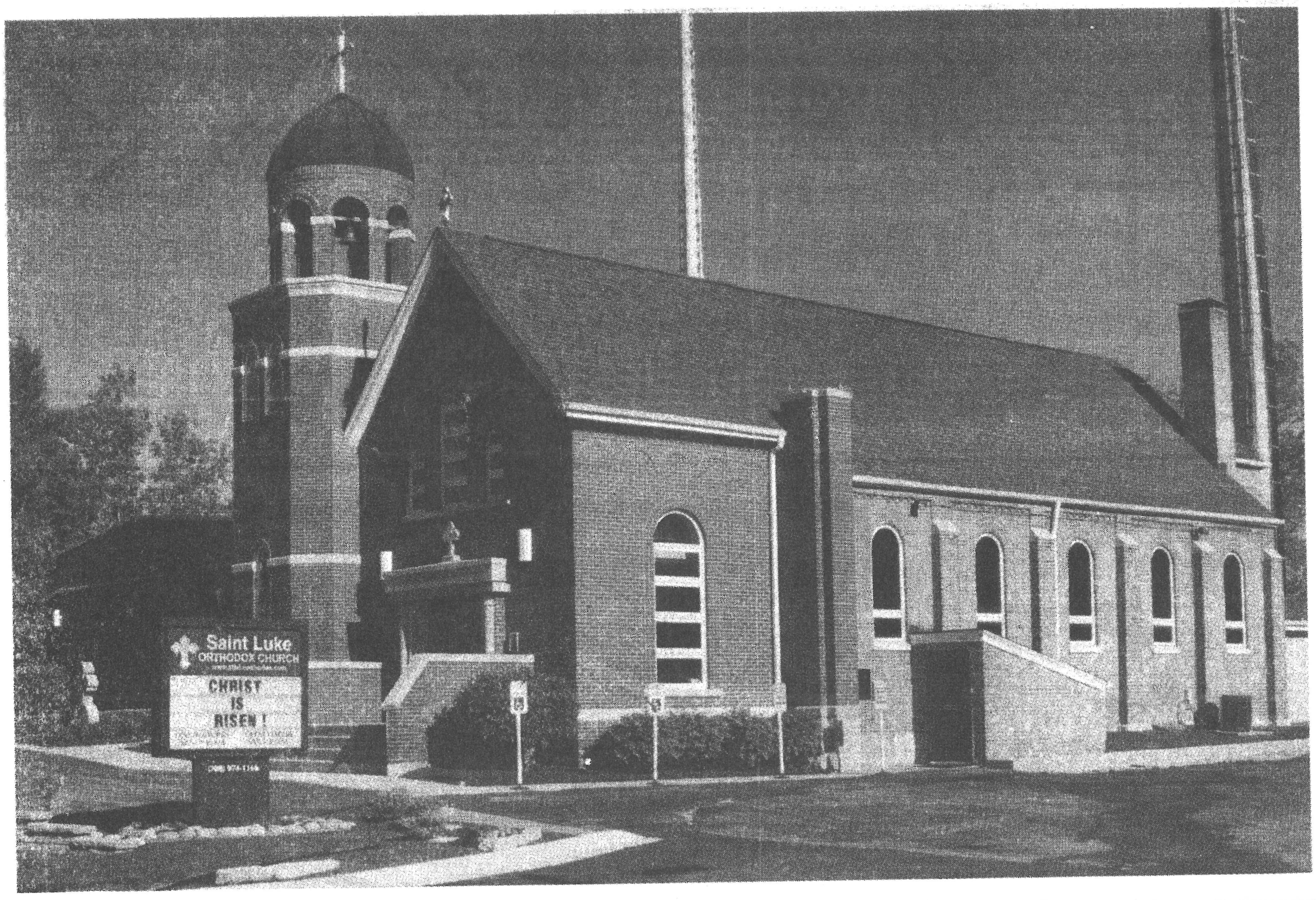
May Their Memory Be Eternal

SAINT LUKE ORTHODOX CHURCH

10700 S. Kean Avenue Palos Hills, IL 708.974.1166

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PARISH OF THE PROTECTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY ON YOUR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

The Saint Luke Family pray that God allows you to continue your mission for many years. Father Andrew Harrison


Saint Luke
ORTHODOX CHURCH
CHRIST
IS
RISEN !

In Memory of
Anna & Vasily Misko

May the Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church continue to celebrate many many more centennials!

Daughter Anne (Misko) Tomsic
& Sons Randy, Gene & Jim

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

GLORY TO YOU!